THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Spring 2016 *Volume 24, Number 1*

Silver Medal and Armband Attributed to Daniel Van Voorhis.
Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery Alabama

Featured in this issue:

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- Daniel Van Voorhis, New York City Coiner
- A Treasure in My Pocket – Vermont Ryder 15
- An Interesting One-real Coin of Charles the Pretender
- Two New Undertypes for New Jersey "Horse Heads"
- Unusual Recoveries from Burlington County, New Jersey
- John Law Coinage, Part 1
- An Adventure with Colonial Coins and Currency
- The Palmetto State
- First Quarter Auction Roundup

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The C4 Newsletter Volume 24, Number 1

A quarterly publication of

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.

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Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Charlie Rohrer at P.O. Box 25, Mountville, PA 17554. Dues are $30 regular (including 1st class mailing of the *Newsletter within the US*) and $40 (for 1st class mailing outside the US); $10 for junior members (under 18 residing in the US) and $15 (under 19 residing outside the US).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE APRIL 2016

(Jim Rosen)

{PLEASE PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO MATERIAL IN BOLD}

As I am sure you noticed, this issue of the Newsletter is a little late, due to the fact that I wanted to report to those who could not make the inaugural joint EAC/C4 meeting this year in Charlotte how this event went. Well things went great, especially given the fact that this was our "maiden voyage" so to speak. EAC as host could not have been nicer and it was great to see so many C4 members who unfortunately could not make C4 in Baltimore for one reason or another. With time, we hope that this relationship with EAC will strengthen both clubs and forge new members and friendships. Both organizations realize that many members can only make one convention per year and by having a presence at EAC and vice versa, that member can actually go to an EAC and C4 convention "at the same time". I want to personally thank Bill Eckberg, Chuck Heck, Nathan Markowitz and John Kraljevich for their much appreciated assistance in this union. Interestingly, all of these gentlemen are C4 as well as EAC members.

Thursday night we had a Colonial happening run by Ray Williams, and there were about 26 people who showed up exhibiting some real cool items. I know that Ray will elaborate about this either in this issue or the following issue. Friday morning we had a C4 business meeting where we discussed the "joint relationship" and what we can bring to EAC and vice versa as well as an issue of counterfeit coins (see below). In November, EAC will have a similar presence at C4 as we had at EAC. They are planning to give one of the Thursday evening educational programs, possibly a day time program, have an exhibit and possibly have a board and business meeting.

An extremely important issue that was brought up at the EAC Board meeting by Gordon Wrubel of PCGS was the concern over counterfeit cents, half cents, colonial and state coinage in holders that are making their way into the numismatic arena. Thought to be coming from China, these coins have the potential of bring down the hobby. Who wants to buy a $5000 or a $500 coin in or not in a holder if there is the potential that this coin is not real? This problem is going to be brought to the attention of the ANA and with the help from the Presidents of national coin clubs as well as the grading services, a task force will be formed to deal with this problem. Unfortunately, the FBI does not have the manpower to deal with this problem. As President, I offered my services to Gordon. One aspect that might help with this problem immediately is to have your coins weighed and to try and get a provenance for them. However, the provenance is easier said than done. I owe it to all my members to be aware of this tragic problem so that if you are buying coins from unfamiliar dealers, look at your new purchases with a little eye of skepticism. If you are not sure about a coin's authenticity, ask to have the coin checked by one of our seasoned dealers; I am hopeful that they won't mind. If in doubt, I'd probably pass.

I hope you all have noticed our new Website, with its forum page. For those members of the club who are new to colonial and state coinage and currency please visit our website @ www.colonialcoins.org and click on the tab on the left titled "Articles". Here you will find an in depth article by Lou Jordan on colonial currency, and an article by Jack Howes on what a colonial coin type set just might look like. For those interested in colonial currency, Lou Jordan's article is a must read. And Jack's article on "a colonial type set" can certainly get you started on the right road. Continuing on this theme, if you click on the "Links" tab on our site, you will find a number

of fantastic links to great sites about colonial coins and currency. So please take advantage of our website to further enhance your knowledge of our hobby.

For those of you who live near Hartford Connecticut, the Connecticut Historical Society, with my help, has put on an exhibit of a type set of Connecticut Coppers (mostly my coins) and Higley Coppers (unfortunately not my coins) along with a number of cast copies, electrotypes, Higley store cards, and a few Bolen copies. The exhibit will run thru June 4th. If you want to contact me, I can take you to the Historical Society and give you a personal tour of the Museum…really a neat place with an early colonial map by Abel Buell!

As a reminder, this is an election year and the call for nominations for C4 officers needs to be sent to Syd Martin or Leo Shane's email address, both of which are found in the beginning of this Newsletter. Please Note that YOU DO NOT HAVE TO LIVE IN THE REGION THAT YOU REPRESENT. THIS IS A CORRECTON AS THE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS IN THE PREVIOUS NEWSLETTER STATED ERONEOUSLY THAT YOU HAD TO LIVE IN THE REGION THAT YOU REPRESENT. The nominations need to be sent no later than June 1, 2016, with final voting to be sent to Frank Steimle's email or snail mail address no later than September 30, 2016. Frank's email and snail addresses can be found in the Newsletter. A ballot will be present in the July Newsletter.

For those of you who are not members of the ANA and do not receive the Numismatist, I would like to recapitulate President Jeff Garrett's Presidential Message as it certainly pertains to C4. Two years ago I stated this very fact that we need to grow our club with youth. At last year's C4 convention, attendance showed that ~88% of attendees were over 60! Although we love our coins, reality tells us we can't take them with us and we hope that when it is time for us to sell our collections, that there will be young collectors out there who will buy them and take care of them as we have. Our hobby has so much competition and diversions from social media and computer technology in general that our youth is much more involved with tech stuff than seeking out our hobby. And we are certainly not alone in our quest for youth and growth, as a recent meeting of coin club presidents at FUN revealed. **As a charge to the membership, I would like to ask each and every member to try and recruit one person per year who is a coin collector or future coin collector to our club**. Many of us go to local coin shows, bringing a few C4 applications to the local shows might just result in one or two new members. If only 10% of our current members are successful in recruiting a new member, we will increase our membership significantly. At the EAC meeting in Charlotte, the Boy Scouts were in attendance and heard a lecture about coin collecting. I gave all 35 scouts in attendance a C4 token and a lanyard. If you have any ideas as to how to get our youth involved in coin collecting, please let me know. I welcome any ideas and volunteers to try and address this perennial and difficult widespread issue.

So, enjoy your coins, and your hobby. Although the internet, as I mentioned above, is a great way to learn about coins and their history, going to our convention and sharing your knowledge first hand is something that can't be beat …it's hard to hold those coins via the computer. Hope to see many of you at C4 in Baltimore this November or EAC in Philadelphia in 2017.

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MINUTES OF THE C4 BUSINESS MEETING NOVEMBER 7, 2015 – BALTIMORE

After introductions by attendees, the meeting was called to order by our President, Jim Rosen.

The club secretary, Frank Steimle, summarized last year's annual meeting minutes and thanked Jim Glickman for filling in for him last year. A motion was passed to accept the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Charlie Rohrer, Treasurer, reported we currently had 375 members and our assets going into this meeting were $99,314.90, but had risen during the meeting to ~$107K.

C4 Newsletter: Editor Syd Martin reported producing 4 newsletters in 2015 plus one supplement. Associate Editor, Will Nipper, will gradually take over most editorial duties. The Editors are always looking for articles, especially from first time authors and these writers should not worry about being perfect, as C4 has an excellent editorial board. The C4NL has been recognized as being one of the best club publications. During the Board meeting it was mentioned that to control C4NL costs, the editors are trying to keep each issue to no more than 60 pages, above which mailing costs increase. To do this, they will only publish notices about applications for grants, etc. once a year and may serialize some long articles. They are also considering making the costs of ads consistent with that of similar publications.

Publications: Dave Menchell, Publications Chairman, noted that the Abel Buell biography by Chris McDowell has been published and is available for purchase from Charlie Davis, along with previous C4 publications. A book on French Colonials is almost ready, and other books are being prepared by C4 members, e.g., on St. Patrick tokens and Lord Baltimore coins. The Board discussed the utility and cost-effectiveness of print on demand printing of our books. Our books are great gifts for families and friends to give to C4 members or local libraries.

Convention: Dennis Wierzba, our bourse chairman, reported that in order to save the club money, he negotiated with the Sheridan Inner Harbor Hotel for a different type of meal prior to our educational sessions, less expensive appetizers and more like a light buffet meal. We asked for a $25 donation from meal attendees which was very successful, but next year there will be a cost for the dinner, which at this point is scheduled to be $25. The Board did not feel it was right that the whole membership subsidize those go to the convention and partake in the dinner, hence the "pay for what you get". Dennis will look into having some desserts available next year. He believes using Sheridan facilities is still the best for safety and convenience. Our gathering area currently is fabulous and we are hopeful that we will have it again next year. The proximity of colonial dealers to our gathering area is advantageous in enhancing the camaraderie of the convention. There was a suggestion of trying to get another table and chairs behind the club table just for C4 members to rest and meet and talk to other members; Jim Rosen will approach the

convention administration. This spring EAC will host C4 in Charlotte and in the fall of 2016, C4 will host EAC. Thus C4 and EAC will have two conventions per year, a mini convention in the spring and our major one in the fall. This way we hope to be able to draw more members to the conventions by having two venues per year. Although we are very optimistic that this relationship will strengthen both organizations, we realize that there will be bumps in the road.

Library: Leo Shane, our librarian, reminded us that we have some rare material in our library, and that he purchased a copy of Phil Mossman's new book from ANS for the library. He has a lot of duplicate material, and wondered if all but 2 copies could be auctioned to members.

Exhibits: There were three outstanding exhibits at our club table this year: a complete set of Vermont copper varieties, the first time a complete set has ever been assembled for display; a group of foreign gold and silver coins used in pre-federal North America shown by Leo Shane; and Dave Menchell presented some super examples of Admiral Rodney medals. It seems Dave has an almost endless supply of interesting colonial related material to share with C4 members, as he provides a new exhibit every year.

Outreach/Education: There was a handout available at the C4 table on distinguishing Castorland tokens. The Thursday evening talks on Spanish and Spanish Colonial Coins that circulated in Pre-Federal American were excellent, as usual. We are always looking for more ideas for next year.

C4 Auction: It was noted that if members were going to offer colonial coins for auction, please use Stacks/Bowers to support our relationship with them. The problem of most members not getting catalogs this year has been discussed with Stacks/Bowers and seems to be resolved for next year by our providing a full list of membership names and mailing addresses beforehand.

Research Grants: These are still available for C4 members who wish or are conducting research on "colonial" numismatics; application forms are available on our website.

Website: The new updated site is still in development but nearly ready.

New Business: A reminder that 2016 is an election year so please cast your vote for a new slate by the end of September at Frank's email or snail mail address. Results will be announced in the C4 Newsletter in October with new officers installed in November.

Remembrances: Jim Rosen asked for a moment of respectful silence for Bob Vlack and Bill Anton, two giants in the colonial collecting/research world who passed away in 2015.

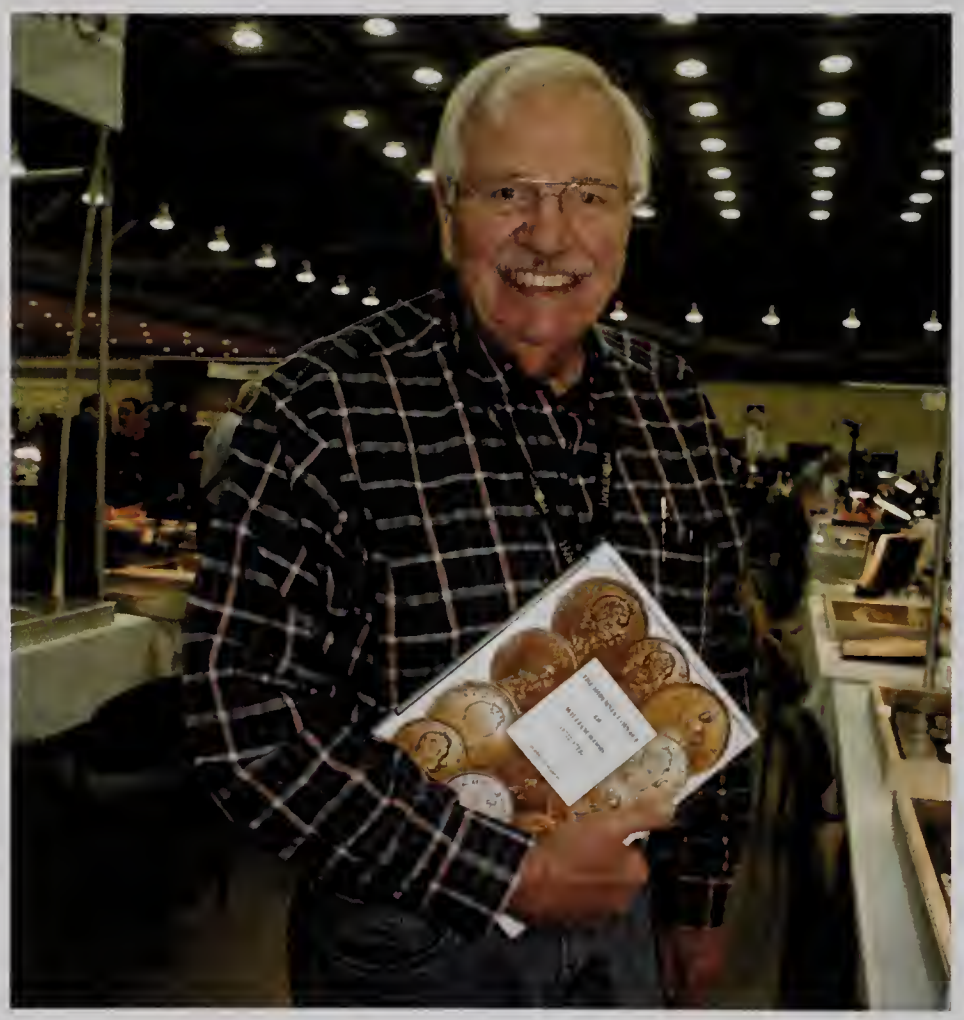
A motion was made and passed to adjourn this year's C4 business meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Steimle, C4 Secretary

A PERSONAL THANK YOU TO SYD MARTIN

(Ray Williams)

The Winter 2015 issue of the C4 Newsletter was the last one published with Syd Martin as its editor. I want to thank Syd for his outstanding job as editor and for all of his sacrifices to provide us with a quality publication. The C4 newsletter is the glue that binds us together. We could survive as a thriving club if we had nothing but a good newsletter. With Syd's editing and the quality of articles submitted, C4 as an organization has thrived and continues to meet its educational mission.



Prolific author and retiring C4 Newsletter Editor, Syd Martin.
Photo courtesy of C4 member, Dale Isaac.

It was early in my administration as your C4 president that Angel Pietri had informed us that he wished to retire as C4 Editor. Angel gave sufficient notice for the C4 Board to find a replacement. However, no one stepped forward to take the reins. Angel then told us which issue would be absolutely his last to edit - thus giving a deadline. As the deadline came frighteningly close, I reached out and asked Brian Danforth if he would step to the plate. He agreed to be editor as long as I could find someone to take care of the computer side of the publication. Enter Syd Martin...I called Syd and he was agreeable to handle the technical side of the C4N.

I knew Brian's writing skills and I knew about Syd's computer skills - all was now right in the world and I slept well that night. Then it happened - the proverbial monkey wrench - Brian disappeared to Thailand and we had little contact, as he had little internet access. Syd was now alone. He received articles and did it all. He has been our editor since 2003 - 13 years without missing an issue! His first 12 issues were in the small pamphlet size, his next 40 issues in the 8 1/2 x 11 inch format that we enjoy today.

Enter Will Nipper... Will became associate editor and worked with Syd for a number of C4N issues. This was with the intent of learning the process for an eventual position as C4N Editor. The time has come. This issue is Will Nipper's first as editor. I have firsthand personal experience with Will's editing skills, both for content and for grammar. Will's numismatic knowledge is across the colonial spectrum and I look forward to the future issues he edits.

Syd,

Thank you for being there when I was between a rock and a hard place.
Thank you for an awesome job with the newsletter.
Thank you for all you do that few ever see.

- Past C4 President Ray Williams

[Editor's note: C4 owes a great debt to Syd for the work he has done over the last thirteen years. With the help of great writers, he has kept us informed and interested in the hobby that we all share. None appreciates his diligence (and your patience) more than your new Editor. As Ray so eloquently said, "Thanks, Syd!"]

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From *The Pennsylvania Packet, and Daily Advertiser*, September 11, 1789, p. 1

NEW-YORK, September 5

It has been remarked, that since the outcry was raised about the copper coin, the silver has depreciated in value, and what is entirely unaccountable upon any just principles, quarters, eighths, and sixteenths of dollars of the old stamp, are depreciated by many in *pistareens*, *half-pistareens*, etc. – The dollars and parts of dollars of this description are really worth a premium upon the value of the new dollars, as is well known.

Money is so *very* plenty, and the fruits of the earth are so *very* scarce, that it cannot be wondered at, that the solid coin should be so little esteemed!

Coppers with the Jersey stamp, are now current at two for a penny: It is to be hoped, that the *mint-masters* will be so moderate as not to glut the market.

DANIEL VAN VOORHIS: NEW YORK CITY COINER

(Christopher R. McDowell)

This Article was made possible by a research grant awarded by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club. The author thanks C4 for its sponsorship of this work.

Little has been written about Daniel Van Voorhis (1751-1824) in the numismatic literature. The time has arrived to recognize and more fully appreciate his influence on authentic and counterfeit coin manufacturing in and around New York City between 1784 and 1790. This article explores both the historical and archeological evidence relating to coining activity conducted by Van Voorhis and his partners, and concludes that Van Voorhis likely struck both authentic Vermont landscape coppers and counterfeit coins at his shop in lower Manhattan.

I. Historical Background

Daniel Van Voorhis was born on Long Island at Oyster Bay on August 30, 1751, to Cornelius and Neiltie (Hoagland) Van Voorhis, who were of Dutch extraction. As a child, he attended the Dutch Reform Church in Wolver Hollow, where the Dutch language was spoken at religious services and records kept in the old tongue well into the nineteenth century. It is unknown to whom Daniel was apprenticed, but based upon the style of his later work, business practices, ancestry, and political leanings, it is the author's belief that he learned from a talented pre-Revolutionary New York City silversmith who operated a large merchant-style shop that made both flatware and hollowware. His master may have been Ephraim Brasher or even the great New York silversmith, Myer Myers, both of whom shared stylistic elements with Van Voorhis, operated large merchant style silversmith shops in the early 1770s, and displayed an interest in gold coin regulation and coin-making.[1] Although Myers was the first Jewish master craftsman in the British Empire, he, like Brasher, was descended from Dutch immigrants to the New World. Brasher, Myers, and Van Voorhis also shared an opposition to British rule.

At the start of the War for Independence, Van Voorhis demonstrated his patriotism by enlisting in the New York Militia. On February 28, 1775, when he was 23, he married Catherine Richards (1758-1839) and, in order to avoid the British occupation of New York City, he took his young bride and infant son, John Richard (1776-1805), to Philadelphia where he set up shop as a silversmith. Although Van Voorhis was a refugee from New York living in Philadelphia, the war was not over for him. He is listed among the officers and men "Belonging to the City and Liberty" in the military service of the Militia of Philadelphia on December 24, 1776.[2] That date is significant because it marks the date when Washington crossed the ice-filled Delaware to confront the British and their Hessian allies at Trenton. At the Battle of Princeton that followed on January 3, 1777, Van Voorhis fought with bravery and distinction. After his commander behaved badly before the enemy, General Washington personally recognized Van Voorhis' abilities by elevating him from an enlisted soldier to commander of his militia unit, a rare and prestigious battlefield commission granted during a pivotal battle for America's independence.[3] Like many

American patriots, Van Voorhis was a citizen-soldier, willing to fight for what he believed in, but also eager to return to his shop and family once the smoke cleared.

Despite his demonstrated aptitude as a soldier, Van Voorhis left active military service once the British retreated from New Jersey after their defeat at Princeton. Although merchant accounts show he had lived and worked in Philadelphia since 1775, it was not until 1780 that Van Voorhis began advertising his wares.[4] Two years later, an announcement for a runaway slave informed the public that if the man was captured he should be returned to "Mr. Daniel Van Voorhis."[5] On April 23, 1782, he advertised the relocation of his goldsmith shop from Market St. "to the west side of Front St., six doors below the Coffee-house."[6] Shortly before December 4, 1782, Van Voorhis made the fateful decision to move his family and business from Philadelphia to Princeton, New Jersey.[7]

At the time, the move must have seemed imprudent as he was leaving the largest city in America, full of wealthy patrons, for a much smaller town far removed from the population density needed to sustain a prosperous silversmith shop. The change, however, was a stroke of unimaginable good luck and timing. On June 20, 1783, military units around Philadelphia mutinied and held Congress hostage until Alexander Hamilton convinced them to allow Congress to meet to discuss their grievances. The next day, after the Pennsylvania Council made clear it could not or would not protect Congress in Philadelphia, the representatives left the city and began looking for a new home for the nation's capital. The leading citizens of Princeton, including Van Voorhis, signaled their warmth and hospitality to Congress by publishing notices condemning the "gross indignities" "offered to Congress by a number of people in arms, at Philadelphia" and pledging their "lives and fortunes to the government under which we live, for the protection of Congress."[8] Congress agreed that Princeton and its environs were a more welcoming location for the capital and moved the seat of government there in July 1783.

The move transformed Princeton overnight. On October 15, 1783, Washington, who was living at Rocky Hill near Princeton, wrote that the town was thronged with visitors "from different parts of the Globe, some to trade, some for amusement, and some, I presume, to spy the land."[9] Princeton was ill equipped for the sudden influx of people and accommodations were at a premium. Van Voorhis wisely volunteered his home to three members of Congress[10] and generally ingratiated himself to that body, becoming active in the social scene with his wife. Soon, Van Voorhis was considered silversmith to the Continental Congress.[11] The size of his Princeton residence indicates that he was well off financially prior to Congress' removal to that town, but the move cemented his place as the leading silversmith for the new nation's leaders. Congress' stay in Princeton was short-lived as the next legislative session was held in Annapolis, Maryland, on November 26, 1783. By the end of 1783, two more children, Susan (1780-1840) and Daniel Cornelius (1783-1818), were added to the household, and without the revenue provided by Congress in Princeton, another move proved inevitable.

The precise timing of the departure from Princeton for New York is recorded in an account book kept by Captain James Moore, a Princeton merchant, who wrote on May 1,

1784, that a wagon carrying the silversmith Daniel Van Voorhis left town. As fortune would have it, Congress again followed him when, in 1785, New York became the nation's capital under the Articles of Confederation. No doubt, Van Voorhis continued to enjoy the patronage of members of Congress and his close relationship with that body provided him with wealth and influence. As such, while other New York silversmiths suffered great privations during and after the war, Van Voorhis enjoyed a degree of financial security unknown to his contemporaries.

The New York City to which Van Voorhis returned was much different from the vibrant city he left nine years earlier. After Washington's forces evacuated the city in 1776, a series of fires destroyed many buildings in what is today lower Manhattan and the two armies ravaged the surrounding countryside for provisions and shelter. Although the Battle of Yorktown was concluded on October 19, 1781, it would be another two years before British forces evacuated New York on November 25, 1783. When the British fleet set sail from New York Harbor it took with it not just soldiers and sailors, but also more than 29,000 Loyalist citizens including an estimated 3,000 liberated slaves who had sought shelter in the city. The fleeing Tories represented some of the city's wealthiest, most productive, and educated citizens. As a result of the war and the loss of its Loyalist citizens, the city's population shrunk significantly to around 12,000 residents in late 1783. Following Washington's triumphal entry into New York City, many patriotic silversmiths like Brasher, Myers, and Van Voorhis returned only to be faced with one of the worst economic depressions in American history. New York City was particularly hard hit by the post-war economic downturn as merchants discovered they could no longer trade freely with England and the British West Indies. A New York businessman wrote in 1785 that "many of our new merchants and shopkeepers set up since the war have failed. We have nothing but complaints of bad times."[12] In this difficult economic environment, in 1784, Van Voorhis opened his shop at 27 Hanover-Square, in lower Manhattan's east side. This fashionable location, which was obtained from two departing Loyalist shopkeepers, was probably selected because of its size, Dutch décor, and proximity to shipping merchants.

Thanks to research conducted by Diana diZerega Wall, an anthropology professor at the City College of New York, we know that the building used by Van Voorhis was constructed around 1700, presumably in the Dutch tradition with stepped gables facing the street.[13] Van Voorhis worked at this address and lived above the store along with his wife, children, and a female slave named Bassy, whom Catherine had inherited. Journeymen and apprentices also occupied the cramped quarters. The 1790 federal census shows 16 members of the Van Voorhis household residing under the same roof, half of whom were not members of the immediate family.[14] The home's interior was adorned in the Dutch style: the fireplace and baseboards were at least partially lined with decorated blue and white delft tiles; green and orange-colored floor tiles were on at least some of the floors; and terra cotta pantiles covering the roof. Van Voorhis apparently sought stability from the changing times by clinging to his Dutch roots. Later, in 1787, he would help establish the Holland Lodge - a masonic organization whose proceedings were held in the Low Dutch Language, for those not well acquainted with English.

While Van Voorhis seemed to have been the living embodiment of a Washington Irving Knickerbocker, he was not living in the past like Rip Van Winkle. On the one hand, he was a master craftsman and member of an ancient guild who identified closely with his Dutch heritage, but on the other, he was a capitalist entrepreneur and citizen of a new democratic society that rewarded hard work, ability, and political connections. In pre-federal America, silversmiths were respected artisans who occupied a lofty place in society. There was no established banking system at the time and wealthy silversmiths often acted as financiers. In addition, some silversmiths, including Brasher, Myers, and Van Voorhis, operated as gold coin regulators. As part of this process, gold coins were assayed and weighed to determine purity and content, if a coin was out of compliance, gold was added to bring it up to standard and the regulator's mark stamped on the coin as his assurance to merchants that the coin could be accepted in commerce.

Regulated 1753-B Brazilian Jose I, 6400 Reis Bearing Van Voorhis' "D.V." Mark[15]

Van Voorhis' political connections extended beyond Congress. Both Martha and George Washington patronized his establishment, buying a ring, a silver box to hold clippings of the great leader's hair, which were in high demand even during his lifetime, and, in 1789, a painting of the President by the miniaturist, William Verstille (1755-1803), who was employed by Van Voorhis and worked out of his 27 Hanover-Square shop. The President was not the only one who obtained a miniature portrait, Daniel and Catherine Van Voorhis also sat for their portraits. The miniatures illustrated below have been preserved by Van Voorhis' descendants and are published here for the first time.[16] They show a well-dressed couple; Daniel with blue/green eyes and white receding hair and Catherine with deep brown eyes and dark hair peeking out from under her fancy white-laced bonnet. In an era before photographs, miniatures of loved ones such as these were carried as mementoes.

Daniel Van Voorhis

Catherine (Richards) Van Voorhis

Silversmiths of this era can be categorized a number of different ways. The image of a Colonial silversmith we hold today is that of a craftsman who works out of a small shop and has perhaps a journeyman or an apprentice assisting him. This is the category into which most, but not all, silversmiths fell and the category into which virtually all small town silversmiths can be placed. Most of the goods made in these small shops were handmade by the artisans in the same manner as they had been crafted for hundreds of years. However, some silversmiths employed an entirely different business model prior to the Revolution in a few of the Colonies' largest cities. These silversmiths were more merchant than silversmith and they operated large stores where a whole host of luxury goods ranging from jewelry and swords to lace and paintings could be purchased in addition to silver items. Although many of the artistic items in these shops bore the mark of the master craftsman, they often were not fashioned by him personally. These wares were fashioned by an employee, contractor, journeyman, apprentice or slave of the merchant silversmith who stamped the article with the mark of the shop's owner. The items were then wholesaled to country shops or retailed to patrons at the merchant silversmith's store. Advertisements appearing in New York's *Daily Advertiser* in 1785 make clear that Van Voorhis was a large scale merchant silversmith who targeted "country orders" from traditional silversmiths to sustain his Hanover-Square establishment, which was perhaps the largest shop of its kind in New York City in terms of the number of artisans employed and volume of goods produced from 1784 to 1789.

Hundreds of surviving silver items bear Van Voorhis' mark, many of which are now part of museum collections, which is testament to the number and quality of goods crafted by him and his associates. In addition to the other items sold at his store, an interesting assortment of Indian trade items was manufactured. These include silver armbands and a unique crown made of engraved silver for an Iroquois chief.

Iroquois Crown Bearing Van Voorhis' Mark[17]

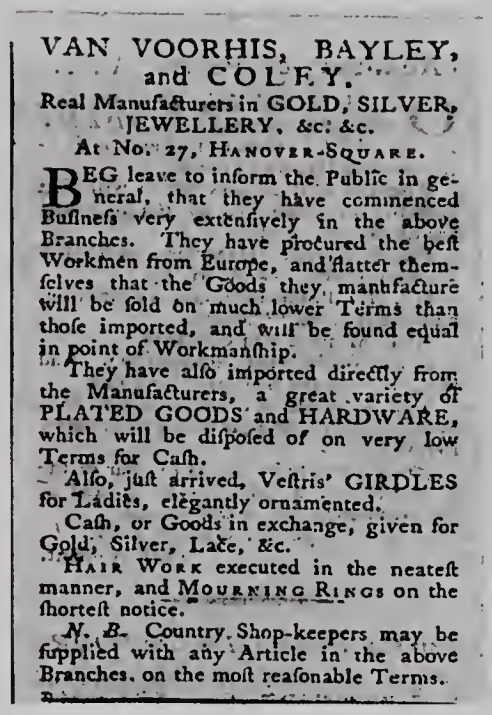
Under the 1790 Treaty of New York, the American government entered into an agreement of "peace and friendship" with the Creek Nation of Alabama and Georgia. At a ceremony on August 13, 1790 in Federal Hall, Washington bestowed six peace medals and six silver armbands on the chieftains in attendance as a symbol of friendship between the nations.[18] In 1929, an Alabama archaeologist unearthed a silver armband bearing Van Voorhis' mark of "DV" along with his eagle stamp resting next an unmarked silver peace medal. The armband is engraved with a federal eagle below thirteen stars and the peace medal is decorated with an eagle standing on a globe. Both artifacts have been attributed to Van Voorhis.

Armband / Medal: Alabama Department of Archives and History, Montgomery Alabama

The choice of Van Voorhis to craft the 1790 Treaty of New York peace medals is logical considering his close ties to Congress and the President and the location of his shop in New York; however, some experts question the authenticity of the medal and its connection to Van Voorhis. No other medal like it has ever been discovered; it is dated 1789, not 1790, it appears different from other peace medals, and does not bear Van Voorhis' mark. However, the date may be related to Washington's inauguration or an earlier détente between the nations, the difference in appearance may be more of an indication of originality than lack of authenticity, and peace medals are not normally marked. Regardless, the very real possibility the silver peace medal was crafted by Van Voorhis to commemorate the first treaty of the new republic with the indigenous people of the continent cannot be discounted. If the peace medal was fabricated in Van Voorhis' shop, it was the last of many medals, coins, and dies manufactured there.

II. The Van Voorhis, Bayley, Coley, & Cox Partnership

Van Voorhis' shop was at the center of coin and die manufacturing in New York City from 1784 to 1790. Below are two advertisements: the first appeared on November 20, 1784 in New York's *Independent Journal* - the second appeared in the same paper on April 27, 1785:



VAN VOORHIS, BAYLEY, and COLEY.

Real Manufacturers in GOLD, SILVER, JEWELLERY, &c. &c.

At No. 27, HANOVER-SQUARE.

BEG leave to inform the Public in general, that they have commenced Buſineſs very extenſively in the above Branches. They have procured the beſt Workmen from Europe, and flatter themſelves that the Goods they manufacture will be ſold on much lower Terms than thoſe imported, and will be found equal in point of Workmanſhip.

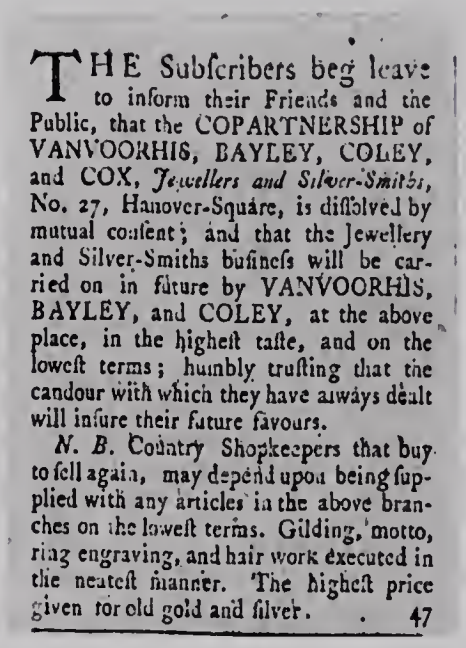
They have alſo imported directly from the Manufacturers, a great variety of PLATED GOODS and HARDWARE, which will be diſpoſed of on very low Terms for Caſh.

Alſo, juſt arrived, Veſtris' GIRDLES for Ladies, elegantly ornamented.

Caſh, or Goods in exchange, given for Gold, Silver, Lace, &c.

HAIR WORK executed in the neateſt manner, and MOURNING RINGS on the ſhorteſt notice.

N. B. Country Shop-keepers may be ſupplied with any Article in the above Branches, on the moſt reaſonable Terms.



THE Subſcribers beg leave to inform their Friends and the Public, that the COPARTNERSHIP of VANVOORHIS, BAYLEY, COLEY, and COX, *Jewellers and Silver-Smiths*, No. 27, Hanover-Square, is diſſolved by mutual conſent; and that the Jewellery and Silver-Smiths buſineſs will be carried on in future by VANVOORHIS, BAYLEY, and COLEY, at the above place, in the higheſt taſte, and on the loweſt terms; humbly truſting that the candour with which they have always dealt will inſure their future favours.

N. B. Country Shopkeepers that buy to ſell again, may depend upon being ſupplied with any articles in the above branches on the loweſt terms. Gilding, motto, ring engraving, and hair work executed in the neateſt manner. The higheſt price given for old gold and ſilver. 47

These advertisements provide clues regarding the birth of coining operations in New York City. The full names of the partners involved were Daniel Van Voorhis, William H. Coley, Simeon A. Bayley, and Albion Cox. Over the course of the next four years, Voorhis, Coley, and Cox would become leading figures in both authentic and counterfeit coin production in America.

Partnerships between master silversmiths who were unrelated by blood or apprenticeship were extremely rare in New York in 1784. Indeed, the first such business did not open in that city until 1756 and only three other dual partnerships of this nature are recorded there during the Colonial period.[19] To the extent that such partnerships were formed in New York before the war, they never involved more than two master craftsmen. The question must therefore be asked, what common business interest brought these four men together? Based on their subsequent endeavors, the best answer to that question is counterfeit coining. The economic and political situation in New York City immediately after the war caused otherwise honest men to turn their talents to the questionable business of making counterfeit coins in order to make ends meet. Certainly, these men would have found counterfeiting more lucrative than operating a silversmith shop in a city hit hard by depression.

Presently the output of the partnership is unknown. According to Jeff Rock, no counterfeit George II or III halfpence coins are currently attributed to the partnership. In all probability, the men were counterfeiting colonial Spanish silver coins in addition to copper halfpence. That the partners possessed the skills to make counterfeit dies and distribute the bogus output from an illegal mint cannot be denied. Whatever the output of the

partnership, it did not last long as Cox soon left the business to pursue other coining ventures.

The roots of the partnership can be traced back to the time when the British controlled the city. In July 1783, William H. Coley moved to New York City and took "the house formerly occupied by James Bennett, jeweler, at 25 Hanover-Square." In all probability, Mr. Bennett was a Tory fleeing the city and eager to sell the prime location. Coley, who served honorably in the Continental Army, was at the vanguard of patriots returning to the city eager to snap up real estate from departing Tories. He announced in Rivington's *New York Gazette* on July 23, 1783 that he intended to carry on the "jewelry business, in all its branches, Miniature Pictures, set hair wrought morning rings, and engraving, in the neatest manner." The advertisement also mentioned that he had "for sale, all kinds of stones, files, crucibles, etc., suitable for carrying on the business." This advertisement suggests that Coley was, among other things, an accomplished engraver. While silversmiths often touted their ability to craft jewelry and silver, it was very uncommon for a silversmith to also hold himself out as a capable engraver. Complex engraving was specialized work that silversmiths normally contracted to skilled engravers.

Sometime before June 1784, Coley moved to 240 Queen St. and partnered with Simeon A. Bayley, a metal worker, cutler, and silversmith. The partnership of Coley & Bayley advertised that they were jewelers and silversmiths. In addition to the wares previously listed by Coley, the new partnership offered plated goods, cutlery, and hardware.[20] In November, 1784, Coley & Bayley joined with Van Voorhis to form Voorhis, Bayley & Coley, located at 27 Hanover-Square. Van Voorhis brought financing, political connections, and a building with an oven/forge to the partnership. Sometime before April 1785, Albion Cox, an assayer, smelter, metal worker, and recent immigrant to America, joined the business. Thus, the partnership of Van Voorhis, Bayley, Coley & Cox had everything needed to manufacture counterfeit coins: an engraver, metallurgist, assayer, financing, political connections, and a location well suited for working metals and distributing the bogus product to Manhattan merchants.

Albion Cox was only with the partnership for a few months before departing in April 1785. Within a year, Cox, who proved himself to be a vexatious, litigious, and debt-ridden gentleman, joined with Walter Mould, whom historians suspect fled England after he was caught counterfeiting, and James Atlee to manufacture imitation British halfpence in New York City.[21] On June 1 1786, New Jersey, eager to rid itself of low-weight imitation halfpence, like those secretly struck by Cox, ironically granted his petition to mint New Jersey coppers under the theory that production of quality coins would flush bogus coppers from commerce. Eventually, Cox's new partners tired of him and sued over unpaid loans resulting in his incarceration in debtor's prison and flight to England to avoid more of the same. In 1793, Cox was invited back to America to be chief assayer of the newly-formed United States Mint. Cox's skills were so essential to coin production at the U.S. Mint that when he died suddenly of an apoplectic fit on November 27, 1795, the facility was forced to halt production of all gold and silver coins.[22]

Cox's departure from the Van Voorhis' partnership was followed in July 1785 by Simeon A. Bayley (1759-1799), who quickly became embroiled in litigation with Cox in New York Mayor's Court. By 1787, newspaper reports indicate that Bayley was insolvent.[23] Simeon Bayley is often confused by researchers with John Bailey (1736-1815), who forged General Washington's battle sword and is credited with cutting the dies for the Nova Eboracs and some New Jersey coppers, to name a few. Although some evidence suggests that Simeon Bayley moved to New Jersey and lived there during the period when coins were being manufactured in that state, no evidence directly connects him to coining after he left the partnership, instead he appears to have occupied himself making silver flatware and hollowware items. Bayley did, however, stamp his mark on a 1798 U.S. large cent shortly before his death.

1798 Large Cent Countermarked by Simeon A. Bayley[24]

III. Van Voorhis & Coley and the Vermont Coppers

After the four-man partnership dissolved, the two remaining partners, Van Voorhis & Coley, began looking for a client in need of their newly acquired coining skills and discovered that person in Reuben Harmon, Jr. (c. 1750-1806) from Rupert, Vermont. Harmon was badly in need of assistance as he had obtained authority from the Vermont legislature on June 15, 1785 to manufacture copper coins, but had no experience in silversmithing, metallurgy, engraving, or coin-making. Harmon did have a mill and some raw copper, but nothing else; therefore, he hired Van Voorhis & Coley to assist him in the venture by engraving the dies and helping to get the mill up and running as a mint. In all probability, the dies for the 1785 landscape coppers and most, if not all, of the 1786 Vermont landscape coppers were crafted at 27 Hanover-Square by Van Voorhis & Coley. In addition to engraving the dies, Van Voorhis & Coley may have also struck some or all of the 1785 Vermont coppers in New York City.[25] Based on his advertised abilities as an engraver, it is surmised that William Coley personally cut the dies for the 1785 Vermont landscape coins, but his travels and differences in the die punches used in the 1785 and 1786 landscape dies, makes it unlikely that he engraved both sets of dies. In all probability, either Van Voorhis or one of his employees, contractors, or apprentices crafted the 1786 landscape dies. Soon after receiving the Vermont contract, Coley began traveling back and forth between New York City and Vermont to assist with the mint, eventually settling in Rupert.

William Coley's name appears in the books of Vermont's North Star Masonic Lodge on November 2, 1786.[26] Shortly after joining the lodge, Coley, who was an active mason his entire adult life, "executed a seal of copper for use of the Lodge."[27] Rupert's land records show that on March 23, 1787, William Coley, of New York, purchased a 144.5 acre farm just down the road from Harmon's residence for £400.[28] In this same time period, the records of Trinity Church in New York City show that Coley was the baptismal sponsor for Daniel and Catherine Van Voorhis' son, William, who was born on December 17, 1786. The Machin's Mills contract, signed in June 1787, lists Coley as a resident of Rupert, Vermont. After Machin's Mills closed in 1789, Coley continued to live in Rupert, working as a silversmith and acting as sheriff of Bennington County; he also served in the Vermont Militia, rising to the rank of colonel.

Shortly after 1807, Coley sold his Vermont property, and settled in Otselic, New York with his wife, Sybel, and son, George. No image of William Coley has been located, but he is described as a "small man, dark complexioned, quick and nervous like a Frenchman. Having received a superior education, speaking French like a native, city bred, and having always associated with men of culture, he was well calculated to be an addition and ornament to any society."[29] On March 7, 1837, Congress granted Coley a yearly pension of $46.66, back dated to March 4, 1831, for his military service during the Revolutionary War. Coley "frequently said that when the time had arrived for him to die, he wished to go like the going out of a candle." That wish was granted him when he died suddenly while helping "the ladies" in the kitchen on November 30, 1843, one minute he was working chopping meat and the next someone asked him a question and he did not respond, "for the spirit of William Coley had fled while he was sitting in the chair."[30] He is buried next to Sybel in Maple Grove Cemetery in Otselic, New York.

Advertisements for Van Voorhis & Coley continued to appear until June 1787. While many articles and books assert that Van Voorhis also moved to Vermont to assist with the mint, the evidence does not support such a move. Advertisements and other documents place Van Voorhis squarely in New York City during the entirety of the pre-federal coinage period.

IV. Van Voorhis' Coining Petitions and The Machin's Mills Partnership

In October 1786, Van Voorhis learned that the federal government was considering establishment of a mint. That month he submitted a petition to Congress in which he stated he was a native of New York who "did at the commencement of the late war between Great Britain and the United States take an active part in favor of his country and at the evacuation of the American Army out of this city, did remove himself and family from his possessions determined to sacrifice his property with the cause of his Country or obtain his freedom...." Van Voorhis went on to state that he was "well acquainted with the intrinsick (sic) value of Gold and silver and also of Coinage..." As such, he respectfully requested to be appointed "Master Coiner" of the proposed mint.[31] Based on his close relationship with Congress, he must have felt he had an excellent chance of receiving the appointment. Unfortunately, Congress decided against construction of a mint in 1786. Accordingly, the petition was moot. The statement in the petition that he was "well acquainted" with coinage

is confirmation of Van Voorhis' involvement in coin-making activities prior to October 1786.

Undeterred by his failure with Congress, in February 1787 Van Voorhis submitted a petition to the New York legislature for authorization to manufacture that state's official coinage.[32] His plans were foiled when the legislature voted against issuing an official copper coin. Finally, on June 7, 1787, Reuben Harmon, William Coley, and Daniel Van Voorhis entered into a partnership with Samuel Atlee, James Atlee, Thomas Machin and others to form what has come to be known as Machin's Mills; the largest and most successful counterfeiting operation in pre-federal America. Van Voorhis' role in the Machin's Mills partnership was defined in the agreement as "Cashier of the Money Coined at the Mills of the said Thomas Machin."[33] Van Voorhis was obviously included in the Machin's Mills partnership because of his financial interest in the Vermont Mint, which must have been substantial for him to have been appointed cashier for the new endeavor.

After Coley left Van Voorhis & Coley in 1787, Van Voorhis continued to operate his New York business out of the 27 Hanover-Square location until moving to the corner of King and Queen Streets sometime shortly before May 8, 1789.[34] In 1790, he partnered with his former apprentice Garret Schanck and the two operated as Van Voorhis & Schanck. This partnership was dissolved by mutual consent on May 1, 1793.[35] Prior to November 1794, Van Voorhis removed to 168 Pearl Street, where he conducted business as usual.[36] In December 1797, he moved his shop to 141 Broadway and brought his son, John Richards Van Voorhis, into the business, calling it Daniel Van Voorhis & Son.[37] Business must have been slow because in August 1798 a meeting was held of the creditors of Van Voorhis & Son and later that month the creditors posted an advertisement stipulating that all payments were to be made directly to them. Financial troubles probably prompted the departure of his son from the business and relocation of the shop to 88 Maiden Lane in July 1799 where it remained until Nov. 4, 1802 when Van Voorhis opened a new shop at 145 Water Street.[38] The numerous moves after 1790 are evidence that Van Voorhis was having difficulty staying afloat in the fast growing and ever changing city. Accordingly, in February 1803, he left his trade, auctioning off all the goods in his shop, and used his remaining political influence to procure an appointment as a weigh-master for the City of New York, a position he held until his resignation on September 29, 1806.[39] Many years later, Van Voorhis, then a resident of Brooklyn, returned to his trade, adding dental services in addition to silver merchandise. His obituary in the *Brooklyn Star*, on June 17, 1824, focused on his military service and concluded that "he was a worthy citizen, and honest man."

Van Voorhis used a number of marks to identify his wares throughout his life. Larger hollowware items were often stamped with one of more eagle marks in addition to his initials.

Van Voorhis' Mark on Hollowware Item

On Smaller flatware pieces, only one eagle mark was used in addition to Van Voorhis' initials or those of his partnership; however, some pieces, like the Van Voorhis & Coley spoon illistrated below, did not incorporate the eagle mark.

D.V.V. Mark with Eagle

Van Voorhis & Schank Mark

Rare Van Voorhis & Coley Spoon with V&C Mark

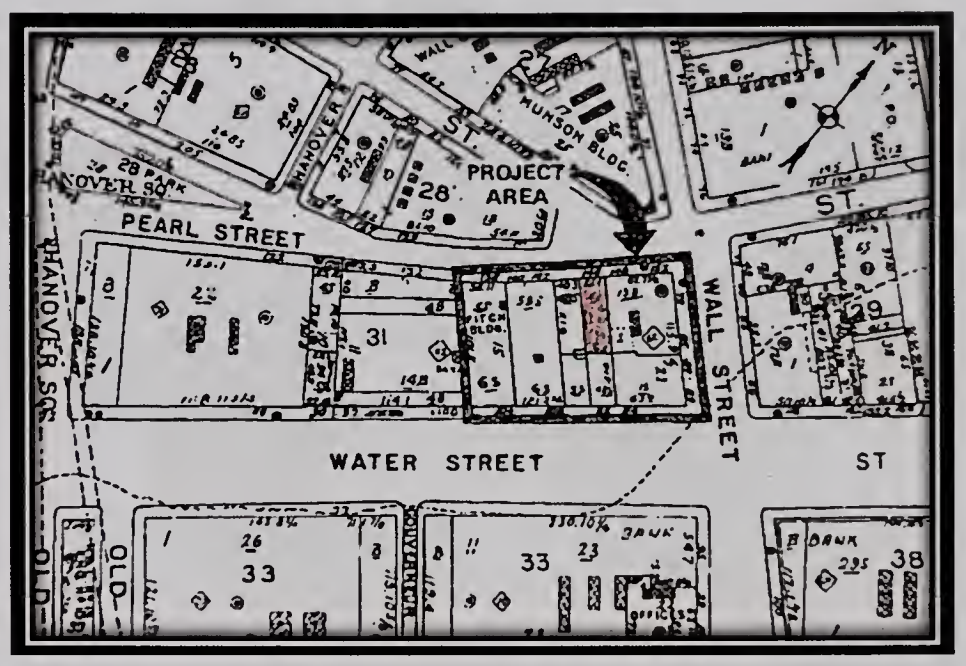
Probably towards the end of his carrier, Van Voorhis used the initials D.V. with his last name and eagle stamp.

Mark with Last Name and Eagle

V. Archeological Evidence of Coin Production at 27 Hanover-Square

After Van Voorhis left 27 Hanover-Square in May 1789, the structure was demolished. There is no evidence that anyone occupied the building after he moved or of a sudden event like a fire or flood that might have destroyed the building. When the shop was leveled, a portion of the brick and mortar superstructure was pushed into the cellar along with domestic refuse and soil. Subsequent buildings were constructed over the cellar, which remained undisturbed until 1982 when Barclays Bank began construction of an office tower on the block between present day Water and Pearl Streets, at 75 Wall Street. The new building required that the lot which was once 27 Hanover-Square be excavated for the foundation of the new skyscraper. Knowing that the excavation would uncover historical

material, a team of archeologists was retained to document the site. The excavation was a city block wide and almost a block long, the best preserved area within the site was the lot where Van Voorhis' shop once stood. Indeed, the archeologists noted that "the Van Voorhis artifacts exhibited the same characteristics as artifacts recovered from a sealed feature."[40]



Barclay Bank Project Area in Lower Manhattan with Van Voorhis' Shop in Red

Volume I of the archeological report titled, "Druggists, Craftsmen, and Merchants of Pearl and Water Streets, New York: The Barclays Bank Site," was completed by Louis Berger & Associates for London & Leeds Corp. in September 1987. The report contains detailed information concerning Van Voorhis' shop. Here at last was a professional archeological examination of a coining operation; however, the work fell short of a forensic report of a counterfeit mint because the archeologists were unaware of Van Voorhis' ties to pre-federal coinage, believing instead that he was a simple silversmith. Over the next few decades Diana diZerega Wall would examine ceramic fragments found in the Van Voorhis assemblage and write several well-researched articles in which she described the daily lives of Daniel and Catherine Van Voorhis, but no one examined the materials for any potential numismatic value.

All of the objects recovered from the Barclays Bank excavation are now located at the New York State Museum in Albany, New York. On February 26, 2016, I visited the museum to examine and photograph the Van Voorhis assemblage from a numismatic perspective. The assemblage evidences the possibility of coinage production at 27 Hanover-Square. Although Van Voorhis vacated the structure before it was destroyed, removing his tools and personal belongings, the fact that he left in haste is evidenced by a small amount of gold and several gems recovered from the site. The most striking aspect of the collection is that approximately 28% of the ceramic vessels are clay crucibles. The archeological report concluded that these crucibles "undoubtedly came from Van Voorhis shop, given the close agreement between the documented occupation dates and the ceramic and glass dates."[41] The over two dozen crucibles range from 1 inch to 6 inches in size, and have round or flat bases, with flaring sides and triangular or round mouths, and are made of cement-like clay with small quartz-like inclusions. In order to conserve storage space, each

crucible is designed in such a way that it can fit inside the next sized vessel like a Russian nesting doll. A surprisingly large percentage of the bowls are intact; this is particularly true of the smaller ones. Some of the crucibles appear unused, while others have crusty metallic deposits on the interiors that upon examination appeared cuprous in nature.

Sampling of Crucibles Recovered From Van Voorhis' Shop at 27 Hanover-Square
Courtesy New York State Museum, Albany, NY

The crucibles would have been placed in a fire of intense heat for melting metals. In addition to the crucibles, the archeologists discovered a charcoal layer in the cellar and other evidence leading them to conclude that an oven/forge was once located there.[42] The presence of crucibles and an oven/forge led to the determination that metallurgical activity took place at the shop between 1785 and 1789. Unnoted in the archeologists' report was the presence of an environmentally damaged lead blank in Van Voorhis' cellar, which, when held in a closed hand, has the feel of a gold coin. The legitimate purpose to which such an item could be put is unknown, but the illicit possibilities are apparent - from ancient times to today, lead, because of its' density, has been used by counterfeiters as the core-filling for fake gold and silver coins.

Lead Blank Recovered From Cellar of Van Voorhis' Shop
Courtesy New York State Museum, Albany, NY

Also in the cellar were copper strips that had been rolled to a uniform thickness, not unlike that of a copper coin. One of the strips had a coin-shaped half-moon wedge removed.

Copper Strips Recovered From Cellar of Van Voorhis' Shop
Courtesy New York State Museum, Albany, NY

The conclusion that metallurgical activity was being conducted in the cellar of Van Voorhis' shop is inescapable, but the available evidence is still inconclusive regarding large-scale coin-making activity. Certainly, the possibility that coins were minted on the property is real, but large-scale manufacturing is not evidenced by the materials found in the assemblage. The largest crucible recovered from the site is 6 inches, which would be too small to efficiently melt the copper needed for tens of thousands of Vermont or counterfeit copper coins. The absence of large crucibles could, of course, be explained by their removal along with other coining equipment by William Coley when he left to work at the Vermont Mint in 1786; however, a definitive conclusion cannot be drawn based on what might have been present, but only on what is actually present in the assemblage. The remaining crucibles, however, would have been of sufficient size to manufacture a profitable batch of counterfeit silver or gold coins.

Archeologists Excavating Cellar of Van Voorhis' Shop

William Coley's July 23, 1783 advertisement in the *New York Gazette* indicated that he intended to carry on the "jewelry business" in New York and that he had "for sale, all kinds of stones, files, crucibles, etc., suitable for carrying on the business" (emphasis added). Two things are apparent from this notice: first, the jewelry business required crucibles, and second, Coley sold them to the public. It therefore seems possible that the abundance of small unused crucibles in the Van Voorhis assemblage relates, in part, to unsold merchandise. At the same time, the size and productive output of Van Voorhis' shop, along with the evidence of used crucibles and an oven/forge, indicate that some of the crucibles were employed at the shop to manufacture jewelry and possibly coins.

The copper strips could have been for the purpose of making coins or other merchandise. Silver and copper shoe and knee buckles were a staple of Van Voorhis' wares and crafted in his shop. A pair of silver shoe buckles manufactured by Van Voorhis and purchased by Henry Remsen (1762-1843), who went on to become President Jefferson's private secretary, are on display at the Museum of the City of New York as are a pair made by Van Voorhis for John Jay (1745-1829), the first Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. Broken parts of a copper shoe buckle were found in the Van Voorhis' assemblage, indicating that copper buckles were also manufactured at the shop. A closer examination of these buckles, however, reveals they are all cast-made items for which copper strips would not be necessary.

Another possible explanation for the copper strips could be that they were used to manufacture copper buttons. A small number of coin-sized copper buttons were identified in the assemblage. An examination of Van Voorhis' advertisements reveals that buttons were not listed among the wares offered for sale, but the advertising lists were clearly intended to be illustrative of the types of goods sold, not an exhaustive inventory. That Van Voorhis manufactured and sold buttons is very likely, but there is no way of knowing if the buttons recovered in the ruins of his shop and home fell off a worker's coat or were crafted within the establishment. Indeed, a beautiful bone button was discovered in the assemblage that was most likely lost at the shop.

Copper and Bone Buttons Recovered From Van Voorhis' Assemblage
Courtesy New York State Museum, Albany, NY

It is doubtful the forge/oven at 27 Hanover-Square could generate the kind of sustained heat required to fabricate steel from iron ore. Although steel is ubiquitous today, in 1785, steel of the purity needed for good coining dies was a rare and valuable commodity.

Accordingly, die steel would have been procured elsewhere in the city and the engraving work performed at the shop. Various sources describe Harmon's Vermont mill as a wooden structure that was either 16′ x 18′ or 18′ x 24′.[43] It is accepted by numismatists that this tiny structure provided sufficient space for all the equipment, including a forge and screw press, necessary for coinage production. Based on maps prepared by the Barclays Bank excavation team,[44] Van Voorhis' shop cellar was approximately 18′ x 37′, which means it had either 1.5 or 2.3 times the usable square footage of Harmon's mill. Therefore, it must be concluded that Van Voorhis' cellar was also large enough to place all the equipment necessary to manufacture coins.

In all likelihood, the coining equipment that found its way into Harmon's mill by 1786 came from Van Voorhis' shop. Based on the fact that it took the Massachusetts Mint well over a year to fabricate all the equipment needed to produce coins, Harmon had to have partnered with Van Voorhis & Coley in order to strike any Vermont copper coins in 1785. While the wooden structure employed by Harmon as a mint may still be found standing near Rupert today, no one knows what became of the screw press and other equipment that was once inside. Legend has it that the "Crane brothers," "well dressed ne'er-do-wells," stole the coining equipment "and set up shop in a ravine on Mount Antone" where "they turned out some fine silver coins." The legend concludes that Judge Sheldon "saw a light up in the woods one night and caught [the Crane brothers] red handed. The machinery was smashed and buried on the spot." No one knows for sure "where the machinery lies. Local rumor says it's still there."[45] Perhaps one day it, like Van Voorhis' shop, will be unearthed and studied.

When the archeological evidence is combined with the historical information, Van Voorhis clearly had the connections, skills, and capacity to manufacture both authentic and counterfeit coins at 27 Hanover-Square between 1784 and 1789. The precise nature of what was produced, other than Vermont landscape coppers, continues to remain a mystery.

The author thanks the staff of the New York State Museum for their assistance and Gary Trudgen, Jeff Rock, Sarah Herron, Marcus Mayhugh, and Brad Karoleff for editing this article. Any errors are, of course, my own.

Endnotes:

[1] The names Myer Myers and Daniel Van Voorhis appear together as proprietors for the town of Underhill, Vermont in 1765. At the time, Van Voorhis would have been a boy. *See* "Early Silversmiths in Vermont," by Jane Burrage, *Antiques*, Feb. 1955, p. 154. Myers submitted a coining petition to Congress and Brasher to New York.

[2] *Pennsylvania Archives*, 6th Series, Vol. 1, Ed. Thomas L. Montgomery (Harrisburg Pub. Co., State Printer, 1906), p. 474.

[3] *Long-Island Star* (Brooklyn, NY), p. 3, June 17, 1824 (obituary of Daniel Van Voorhis).

[4] Williams, Carl, *Silversmiths of New Jersey: 1700-1825*, (George S. MacManus Co., Philadelphia, 1949), p. 119; *See also*, Waters, Deborah, *Elegant Plate: Three Centuries of Precious Metals in New York City* (Museum of the City of NY, Hong Kong, 2000), Vol. II, p. 419.

[5] *Pennsylvania Journal* (Philadelphia, PA), Issue 1484, p. 4, Apr. 20, 1782.

[6] *Pennsylvania Packet* (Philadelphia, PA), Vol. XI, Issue 875, p. 3, Apr. 23, 1782.

[7] *New-Jersey Gazette* (Trenton, NJ), Vol. V, Issue 258, p. 4, Dec. 4, 1782 (advertisement announcing move to Princeton).
[8] *See, e.g., Boston Evening-Post and the General Advertiser* (Boston, MA), Vol II, Issue XCIV, p. 2, Aug. 2, 1783.
[9] Letter from Washington to Jean-Baptiste Donatien De Vimeur Comte De Rochambeau, October 15, 1783.
[10] Collins, Varnum, *The Continental Congress At Princeton* (Princeton, NY, Univ. Library, 1908), pp. 196-7. Van Voorhis offer indicated that he had 3 rooms with fire places, 3 beds & bedding, and could offer 3 breakfasts & tea to any member of Congress willing to accept his free offer.
[11] Williams, *Silversmiths of New Jersey*, p. 117.
[12] Butler, John, "The New York World of Myer Myers," an essay appearing in *Myer Myers: Jewish Silversmith In Colonial New York*, David L. Barquist, (Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, CT, 2001), p. 7.
[13] Wall, Diana, "The Van Voorhis Family: Artisans in Post-Colonial New York City," *Tales of Gotham, Historical Archaeology, Ethnohistory and Microhistory of New York City*, ed. Janowitz, Meta (Springer, New York, 2013), p. 211; *See also*, Wall, Diana, "At Home in New York: Changing Family Life among the Propertied in the Late Eighteenth and Early Nineteenth Centuries," (Ph.D diss., New York University, 1987); Wall, Diane, "The Archaeology of Gender: Separating the Spheres in Urban Life (New York, NY, Plenum Press, 1994).
[14] The 1790 Census was recorded on August 2, 1790, which is after Van Voorhis moved from 27 Hanover-Square. It should be noted that as of the date of the census, Van Voorhis had no slaves.
[15] Courtesy Heritage Auctions, Aug. 12-16, 2010, lot #21354.
[16] These images are used with the permission of Richard R. Murray, the current owner, who obtained them from his great-aunt, Jassamine Isabella (Heath) Ballod (1913-2004) in 2003, who inherited them from Isabella Boyd (Hammond) Apgar (1845-1925). The miniatures would have been passed to Mrs. Apgar's parents after Catherine Van Voorhis' death in 1839. It is this author's opinion that the miniatures are not the work of William Verstille. It is noted that Van Voorhis' partner, Col. William H. Coley, advertised in 1783 that he painted miniatures, leaving open the possibility that he created them.
[17] Trade Axe & Tomahawk Collectors Association, http://tatcalite.tripod.com/id2.htm.
[18] 1790 Treaty of New York – under the second article each of the chiefs was given a medal and $100 annually.
[19] *Myer Myers: Jewish Silversmith in Colonial New York*, David Barquist, (Yale Univ. Press, New Haven, 2001), p. 33.
[20] Independent Journal, (New York, NY), p.2, Issue 57, June 16, 1784.
[21] Nipper, Will, *In Yankee Doodle's Pocket*, (Bowmanstone Press, 2008), p. 288.
[22] U.S. Mint Notes, Dec. 3, 1795.
[23] *Independent Journal* (New York, NY), Issue 348, p. 4., March 31, 1787.
[24] This image is used with permission of John Kraljevich Americana.
[25] Carlotto, Tony, *The Copper Coins of Vermont and Those Bearing the Vermont Name*, (C4, Chelsea, MI, 1998), pp., 8, 9, 24, 40, 56
[26] Koon, George, *Early Records of the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont*, (Burlington, VT, 1878), p. 21.
[27] *Ibid.*, p. 18.
[28] Rupert, Vermont, *Land Deeds*, Vols. 4-5, p. 210. I am very grateful to Gary Trudgen for sharing these records with me along with his notes and research concerning the Vermont Mint.
[29] Koon, George, *Early Records of the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont*, (Burlington, VT, 1878), p. 21.
[30] *Ibid.*
[31] Mayhugh, Marc, "Daniel Van Voorhis Coining Proposal," *C4 Newsletter*, Summer, 2004, pp. 28-32.
[32] Bressett, Kenneth, *Studies on Money in Early America*, "Vermont Copper Coinage," (ANS, NY, 1976), Chap. 11.
[33] Crosby, Sylvester, *The Early Coins of America* (Sanford Durst, New York, NY 1983), p. 199.
[34] *Daily Advertiser* (New York, NY), Vol. V, Issue 1315, p. 1, May 8, 1789.
[35] *Daily Advertiser* (New York, NY), Vol. IX, Issue 2567, p. 3, May 8, 1793.
[36] *Daily Advertiser* (New York, NY), Vol. X, Issue 3037, p. 3, Nov. 8, 1794.
[37] *Commercial Advertiser* (New York, NY), Vol. I, Issue 69, p. 3, Dec. 20, 1797.
[38] *Mercantile Advertiser* (New York, NY), Issue 3189, p. 3, Nov. 4, 1802.
[39] *American Citizen* (New York, NY), Vol. 3, Issue 902, p. 3, Feb. 12, 1803.
[40] Louis Berger & Associates, "Druggists, Craftsmen, and Merchants of Pearl and Water Streets, New York: The Barclays Bank Site," September 1987, p. VIII-112

[41] *Ibid.*, p. VII-48.
[42] *Ibid.*, p. VII-53.
[43] Guibord, Naomi, "A Glimpse of the Early History of Rupert, Vermont," (West Rupert, VT, 1940), p. 11 (describing the building as being 16′ x 18′); Gilbert, William, "The Man Who Went Bankrupt Making Money," *Southern Vermont Summer*, July 29, 1967 (describing the building as "a stout little 18th century barn, 18 feet by 24 feet, in a quiet meadow where a waterfall gave him extra power").
[44] Berger, "Merchants of Pearl Street," p. VI-4, Figure VI.1, "Location of Important Features and Deposits."
[45] Gilbert, "The Man Who Went Bankrupt."

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A TREASURE IN MY POCKET

(Mike Packard)

This is a bit of a shaggy-dog story of how I reached into my pocket one day and pulled out an unexpected treasure. As some of you may know, my major colonial collecting interest is the copper coins of Massachusetts, but I also have modest collections of Vermonts and Connecticuts, among other series. For some reason, I was never bitten by the horse fly. I leave the NJs for those with inexplicably weird tastes. For the past couple of years, I've been trying to see how many Connecticut varieties I could amass while generally spending less than $100 per coin. It has been, and continues to be fun, even though I'm sure I've overpaid for more than half the 200+ varieties I've accumulated so far.

I belong to EAC as well as C4 (and some other numismatic organizations). I've been attending EAC Conventions since 1980 and have only missed two. In 1986, I took over a project previously done by my friend Jan Valentine when I began making and giving away Bangers—old large cents I counterstamped with: 'EAC'; the year; the location of the convention; and, usually, the name of the person to whom I gave the Banger.

My sources for the large cents (and the occasional half cents, (post-)colonials, or other host coins) are donations from EAC members, and purchases off eBay, at coin shows, or from a couple of local dealers. Over time, my costs have gone up and the quality of the host coins has gone down. Actually, the quality took a step down after one relatively new EAC member complained vociferously that the coins I was banging were nicer than the coins he was collecting. He was really mad. I decided his point had some merit and began look for lower-grade pieces or coins with problems that would limit their attractiveness as collectible cents.

As I acquire my Banger stock, I put them in zip-lock bags. About twice a year, I dump the coins and try to attribute them. I don't want to bang a rare variety, even if it is a low-grade piece. I occasionally find a goodie which I set aside to sell to recoup some of my costs. The coins that are bangable, either because they are common varieties or so far

gone that they are unattributable and not likely to be worth much even if they were rare, go into my banging bag. The remaining coins are set aside for additional attribution attempts. On the last go-round, this latter group included several large cents, couple of corroded head-left colonial types that I thought were Connecticuts or perhaps George II pieces, and an old European copper piece that I thought might be French.

One of the things I've noticed in 30 years of banging coins is that dirty, corroded, and porous Bangers tend to clean up if one carries them in one's pocket for a year. This is the way I "curate" low-grade coins. The friction from bouncing against keys, coins, and other pocket items knocks off the dirt, rust, and other surface contaminants and these cruddy coins often start to look better. The high points of the coins appear first. It takes longer for the fields to clean up. Most of these coins get that nasty, bright copper color early on, especially on the high points, but they tend to tone down again over time. I don't recommend the technique for coins with more than minimal value, but I have used it on coins I could not attribute to highlight enough detail to attribute them.

So back to those two corroded head-left pieces. I could make out part of the bust and part of the seated figure on each, but no legends, or dates. I figured "what-the-hell." I had about $5 in the pair so the downside was small. I added them to my 2015 EAC Banger (yup, I make one for myself), a couple of large cents in the process of "curating", and the rest of the stuff I carry out of necessity or just because it is there. Those two coins accompanied me on my journeys, bouncing around and getting cozy with their neighbors.

Now the process takes some time, and I did not look at the coins for 3-4 weeks. At that time, some of the black crud had been knocked off and parts of the high points were appearing. On the first piece I studied, I could see CON behind the head and part of ORI in front of it. Parts of ET LIB were visible on the reverse and the seated Liberty was gaining clarity. The style was of 1787, maybe 1788, but not 1785 or 1786. It needed more curating before it could be attributed (if ever). The second piece also showed a few letters. However, the AUC of AUCTORI was on the right side of the bust, not the left. Looking closely, I could imagine the ER of VERMONT at the lower left. This wasn't a Connecticut, it was a head-left Vermont. Was it a Ryder 10 or Ryder 11? I got out my Jack Howes' Vermont plates and had a look. The AU of AUCTORI was close to the head, indicating a Ryder 11. (The U of AUCTORI is more distant on the Ryder 10.) I flipped the coin over for confirmation, but there was a problem. The arm holding the leafy branch pointed to the right side of the E in INDE as on the Ryder 10, not the upright as it does on the Ryder 11. But I can see what appears to be the top dot of a colon and the Ryder 10 doesn't have a colon. There is one other possibility, but it seems too farfetched. I looked at the date area and in the corrosion I saw what looked like a cud. It <u>was</u> a cud! I had just unexpectedly pulled a Ryder 15 out of my pocket. It is an ugly piece, but loveably ugly. I have a new variety for my Vermont collection. The coin is pictured below, (courtesy of Jack Howes who took the picture at the convention). Unfortunately, I did not take a picture of the piece before I began the curation process.

So, what did I do with my new-found treasure? Did I put it in my bank with the rest of the coins in my Vermont collection? No, I put it back in my pocket to continue the

curating process. It is never going to be a Partrick-quality piece, but it will improve in appearance as more corrosion gets knocked off, the high points smooth out, and the color changes from orange-and-black to black-and-tan. I carried it to the C4 Convention and wowed some friends by pulling it out of my pocket at the C4 table. Greg Field had arranged for an exhibit of all 40 varieties of Vermonts. Both the obverse and reverse of many varieties were displayed, but there was only one Ryder 15 on display. I offered to lend my piece for the exhibit and the offer was accepted. Now I have to decide whether to bank it or continue the curation process. Right now, it is curating.

How thrilling is this? One day you reach into your pocket and pull out a treasure from almost 230 years ago. I can tell you. It is as thrilling as it can be.

Pictures courtesy of Jack Howes

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A VERY INTERESTING SPANISH ONE REAL COIN OF CHARLES THE PRETENDER

(Marc Mayhugh with Rickie Rose and Ray Williams)

Counterfeit examples of colonial era coins can be very interesting due to the mistakes and minting errors of the illegal coiners. Whether the result of ignorance or apathy, they make for fascinating coins. Case in point is a one real error coin of Charles the Pretender that not only has an impossible date, but is an impossible denomination as well.

Charles the Pretender was the Archduke of Austria. He laid claim to the Spanish throne when the last Spanish Hapsburg King, Charles II, died without an heir in 1700. His claim was challenged by Philip V, grandson of Louis XIV of France, resulting in the War of Spanish Succession.

What is relevant to collectors of Colonial era coins is that, at one point during the war, Charles seized the Spanish mint in Barcelona and proceeded to mint Spanish coins in his name, mainly 2-*reales* pieces, or *pistareens* (1707-1714). *Pistareens* were a debased Spanish coin of two *reales* that circulated at a lower value than the 2-*reales* coins of the New World mints. Basically, five *pistareens*, worth 20 cents each, were equivalent to a Spanish dollar, while four New World 2-*reales*, at 25 cents each, were equivalent to a Spanish dollar. Because of their lower value, *pistareens* tended to stay in circulation longer and went on to become one of the most important coins in the American colonial economy, although they were never recognized by any government authority. Anyone with an interest in the Spanish *pistareen's* role in American history should read Thomas A. Kays' "When *Pistareens* Cut Their Way Through the Tobacco Colonies" in *The Colonial Newsletter*, vol. 41, serial 116, April, 2001, pp. 2169-2199. More information can be found in John M. Kleeberg's, "A Coin Perfectly Familiar To Us All: The Roll [sic] of the *Pistareen*" in *The Colonial Newsletter*, vol. 38, serial 109, December 1998, pp. 1857-1873.

There is little doubt that Pretender pieces circulated in America, alongside other members of the pistareen family. In his book, *An Inventory of American Coin Hoards...*,[1] John M. Kleeberg lists a cut quarter of a Pretender *pistareen* found by Thomas A. Kays in Stanford, County, VA. He also records a full pretender piece found in Haverhill, NH in 1951. Kleeberg lists another Pretender coin found in a hoard in Haiti in 1966.

Kays, in his article, notes five Pretender *pistareens* dug by metal detectorists in the U.S. The Kays article also depicts a Pretender piece with an Azores counterstamp (p. 2180) further attesting to the worldwide circulation of the coins.

Further linkage to American usage is the fact that two Mould-Atlee halfpennies, both Vlack.6-76A, were struck on copper planchets that had previously been struck with Pretender *pistareen* dies. Kleeberg mentions that the *pistareen* dies are counterfeit, while Kays has this to say: "Roller dies for *pistareens* of Charles III the Pretender may have escaped destruction after his unseating since high quality counterfeits struck on copper are known as host coins in Mould-Atlee halfpence dated 1776." (Kays, p. 2172) His statement is somewhat ambiguous, but hints at the suggestion that some of the dies used in New York, by Mould and/or Atlee, may have been survivors from the Charles III era.

After hopefully establishing ties between the Charles III Pretender pieces and American commerce, it's time to return to the subject at the hand, a counterfeit one real coin of Charles III, dated 1717. To begin, this piece is known as an impossible date coin. Charles III minted coins dated 1707-1714, despite the fact that the War of Spanish Succession ended in 1713. Charles gave up his claim to the Spanish throne when his brother died and he became ruler of the Holy Roman Empire. 1717 is clearly out of the range that Charles would have used to produce his coins. Kays points out that "…this non-current Spanish design would be ripe for counterfeiting many years after the fact. It would not directly displease Philip V to encounter his rival's false coin nor should it draw the harsh penalty for treason if the counterfeiter were caught." (Kays, p. 2172)

[1] Kleeburg, John M., *An Inventory of American Coin Hoards (Treasure Trove), Shipwrecks, Single Finds, and Finds in Excavations*, New York, American Numismatic Society (Numismatic Notes and Monographs, 109), 2009.

1717 Charles the Pretender one-reale coin (Photo by author)

The second interesting thing about this piece is that it is distinctly marked as a one *real* coin even though its size and weight suggest that it is a 2-*reales* coin. The coin is a

little short on weight at 4.16 grams, even though it appears to be silver. The dimensions 24.5 mm x 24.1 mm make it a little larger than most *pistareens*. While the coin is probably quite rare, it is not unique. Another example, although struck in brass, is known to exist and is housed in the ANS (American Numismatic Society) collection. The ANS reference number on this coin is 0000.5.1. That coin is plated in the Kleeberg article and surprisingly, no mention is made of the 1-*real* denomination. Both Kleeberg and the ANS refer to the coin as a *pistareen*, even though the denomination is clearly marked by a "1". A very unusual coin.

The collecting of *pistareens*, genuine, or counterfeit, falls far behind that of the 2-*reales* series. (When I tried to consign a couple to a Stack's sale I was told that the world probably isn't ready for counterfeit *pistareens* quite yet.) Still, the work of Kays, Kleeberg, Philip Mossman and others demonstrate just how instrumental these coins were in the American economy and later, that of the West Indies. Personally, I know that there is a small, yet determined group of collectors out there who avidly collect these coins. There are even a few dedicated to the collecting of Pretender pieces searching for the "Holy Grail", the undertype of the New York imitation halfpennies.

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A Proſpective View of the Town of BOSTON, the Capital of New-England; and of the Landing of —— Troops in the Year 1768, in Conſequence of Letters from Gov. Bernard, the Commiſſioners, &c. to the British Ministry.
P. REVERE.
Beaver.—2 Senegal.—3 Martha.—4 Glaſgow.—5 Mermaid —6 Romney.—7 Lanceſton.—8 Bonetta.

Revere, Paul, Engraver. A prospective view of the town of Boston, the capital of New England - and the landing of --- troops in the year 1768, in consequence of letters from Gov. Bernard, the commissioners, &c. to the British ministry / P. Revere. [1770] Image. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, https://www.loc.gov/item/2004670036. (Accessed April 12, 2016.) The Mermaid (ship #5) brought tons of British copper halfpennies and farthings to Boston in 1750.

A COUPLE OF NEW HORSIES JOIN THE HERD: TWO NEW UNDERTYPES FOR NEW JERSEY COPPERS

(Leonard Massa and Jeff Rock)

The New Jersey state copper coinage of 1786-1788 is a curious beast, and has always attracted serious collector interest. While four states had their own distinct copper coinage -- Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts -- those of New Jersey have always been the most sought after, and the most expensive compared to the other series overall.

Perhaps this is due to having a manageable number of varieties to collect. The Vermont series with 39 varieties is just too short -- one hits the wall very quickly. But the Connecticut coppers are too complex for some, with 360 or so varieties to chase down, many of which differ only slightly from one another and take some work to attribute. New Jersey coppers, with roughly 140 varieties, have a perfect number for the collector to pursue. One can hit 80 varieties with a little patience and not a huge investment (well, depending on the grades you pursue). The next 20 varieties needed to hit the coveted 100 mark get progressively tougher and much more expensive. The 20 or so past the 100 mark that one might reasonably hope to see in their lifetimes range in price per coin from roughly the cost of a new luxury car to the cost of a new house, with the final few probably being houses with ocean views! But despite that, the series remains accessible to the masses. A collector on a modest budget will not get to 100 varieties (without a lot of luck cherry picking), while one with millions in the bank may still not hit 100 varieties anytime soon because many of the rarest varieties are currently impounded in notable collections.

The New Jersey series also benefits from being markedly different from what was in circulation at the time. The Connecticut coppers and the bust style Vermont coppers essentially looked just like the British halfpence (mostly counterfeit and lightweight) that made up the bulk of copper coinage in colonial America and the early United States. This was certainly intentional, and probably helped them circulate without much problem since they looked like what people were accustomed to seeing. The Vermont landscape coppers were certainly different, but they compromised just a handful of varieties (one a counterfeit), and did not have large mintages or apparently circulate much outside of Vermont (which was technically not yet a state). The Massachusetts cent and half cent designs were certainly different from the norm -- But Boston always did things their own way, including making a giant harbor full of tea! And while the Indian and eagle designs are truly original and American, to many collectors the varieties all look the same (and even the counterfeits in the series look reasonably good, nothing like the crudities in the other state coppers series). But the New Jersey coppers are again in the "sweet spot" for the collector. They are a very different design from anything else in circulation, but nearly every variety is distinct enough that each one looks different from the rest -- whereas one Draped Bust left Connecticut or Vermont looks much like the others to many non-specialists.

New Jersey coppers are special in another way too, which is in the area of overstrikes. The Connecticut and Vermont coppers both come overstruck on Nova Constellatios (especially in the 1788 dated varieties), and Connecticuts and Vermonts (rarer) serve as undertypes for New Jersey coppers. Massachusetts coppers don't come overstruck on anything, and just one rare counterfeit variety serves as an undertype for a single Connecticut copper variety. While New Jersey coppers are extremely rare as undertypes for other coins -- three examples of the same variety serving as planchets for an extremely rare Immunis Columbia pattern -- they definitely hold the title when it comes to being struck over other coins. Indeed, a single variety of New Jersey -- Maris 56-n, the first "Camel Head" variety -- comes struck over more different coins than all of the other varieties of all the other colonial series combined!

In his seminal work *Money of the American Colonies and Confederation Period* (New York, The American Numismatic Society, 1992), Dr. Phil Mossman presents a list of undertypes known to him, to which others have been added over the years, usually when large collections cross the auction block. The authors would like to add two new host coins to this census, one each for Maris 17-b and Maris 56-n. Mossman's list of overstruck coins, which is found in Appendix 2 of his work (and well worth the price of the book for this information found there alone!) lists 16 New Jersey copper varieties that come overstruck, including a couple that seem to be unique overstrikes (a Maris 16-d over a French copper and a 35-W, reportedly over a Georgius Triumpho copper), while the rest of the list is made up of varieties that often – or even mostly – come overstruck, a familiar list to the New Jersey specialist, made up of Maris 17-J, 17-K, 17-b, 34-J, 34-v, 36-J, 40-b, 56-n, 57-n, 58-n, 70-x, 71-y, 72-z and 73-aa. A few other one-off overstrikes have turned up over the years since Mossman's book was published.

For the 1786 Maris 17-b, Mossman states "About half are overstruck and usually on Connecticut Coppers." In addition to a couple of attributed 1787 and 1788 Connecticut host coins, he also lists a 1782 Irish halfpenny, a 1774 Louis XVI Sol, a 1787 Nova Eborac, a pair of Vermont coppers (one a Ryder 9 "Baby Head" and one a 1788-dated Ryder 20) and a 1783 Nova Constellatio copper. Interestingly, only a couple of the host coins actually predate the year found on the New Jersey copper overstrike, while one of the Connecticut coppers and the bust style Vermont are both dated two years AFTER the date on the Maris 17-b. One is never too surprised to find that colonial coins were struck after the dates they bear, a fact that had been known at least since Crosby and probably noted prior to that as well.

To this census of Maris 17-b overstrikes, we would like to add another host coin, this one a 1769 Irish halfpenny. The coin measures 29.78 mm at its widest diameter and weighs in at a robust 131.4 grains. Since the legal weight for genuine regal Irish halfpence was set at 132.6 grains, this host coin is most likely a regal issue and not a counterfeit. The Irish coinage was usually lighter than the British coins that were struck at the same mint – This tended to keep the coins in Ireland which always had a lack of circulating specie. However, some clearly did circulate elsewhere, since this one ended up halfway around the world a couple decades after it was struck! It could certainly have arrived in the American colonies in the course of commerce at any point after 1769 (and as late as 1788 when the

New Jersey variety was probably struck). It's more likely it came here toward the earlier part of that range since American and Irish coinage were both authorized at lighter weights than British coins, with American pieces even lighter than Irish ones (think of the William Wood issues of Rosa Americana and Hibernia pieces, for instance). The coin, of course, could have come over later in someone's coin purse (pockets not yet having been invented, so we can't really say "pocket change!"), and as a good weight regal issue it would have probably found favorable circulation since it would have weighed much more than the lightweight counterfeit coppers in circulation, and right around where the various state coinages would have weighed. This example came from the Richard August collection.

The undertype is stronger in hand than in the photographs, and one can see remnants of the Irish halfpenny legends on either side, the IVS of GEORGIVS being especially bold, and on the reverse the N of HIBERNIA. What looks like two large circular digs at the upper left reverse is actually the important part of the undertype – those are the loops of the 69 in the date! We've provided photos oriented with both the New Jersey overstrike and with the Irish host coin.

Figure 1: 1786 New Jersey Copper, Maris 17-b, overstruck on a 1769 Regal Irish Halfpenny. Top photo oriented to show the New Jersey overstrike, bottom photo oriented to show the host coin; the last two digits of the date are visible at the lower right of the bottom photograph.

The second new host coin also comes from across the sea, and is on a Maris 56-n which is, without a doubt the most common overstruck New Jersey copper variety and one that comes on a simply bewildering array of host coins – indeed the listing for this single variety in Mossman's book takes up as much space as a dozen other varieties combined! Mossman states that about half of the observed host coins are Connecticut coppers (1785, 1787 and 1788 dates), but the list also includes Vermont coppers (landscape, Ryder 13 Britannia and 1788 dates), Machin's Mills / Atlee Halfpence (1772, 1774, 1775, 1787 and 1788 dates), 1787 Nova Eborac coppers, 1783 Nova Constellatio coppers, and the ultimate colonial coin undertype, a 1787 George Clinton Cent (an expensive coin to use for a host piece – auction records have been in the six-figures when a George Clinton has been offered in recent years!). To this group of native coins serving as undertypes, some foreign pieces are known as well. These include an undated George II British halfpenny, George III British halfpennies (dated 1772 and 1774, as well as other undated ones which are probably counterfeits) and Irish halfpennies (dated 1782 and 1783, the latter definitely a counterfeit since no regal issues were struck that year; undated Irish halfpenny host coins also exist.). Other hosts not mentioned in Mossman's notes include a French copper and one over an unknown foreign coin that weighs just 58.5 grains (well under half the authorized weight!) that appeared in the 1907 Stickney sale. So prevalent are the overstrikes that a Maris 56-n on a virgin planchet is actually much rarer than one overstruck on something!

To this list should be added one overstruck on a George I British halfpenny, this one clearly dated 1723. It measures 28.11mm at its widest and weighs 115.2 grains. While the authorized weight for this issue was 152.2 grains, it's uncertain whether the host coin here is a counterfeit, or a regal issue that had just received extensive wear in the 65 years after it was struck and then recoined as a New Jersey copper. Struck counterfeits of George I British issues are extremely rare (as opposed to those of George II and George III), though casts are known. The present example shows characteristics of a cast, especially some of the surface quality, but after it had been recoined, the striking pressure would have erased many of the telltale characteristics of a cast host coin. Given the weight and surface we are comfortable saying it is over a probable cast counterfeit, but it could be a well-used regal piece too. Identifying the undertype is easy as the British normally alternate which way their rulers face on a coin – George I faced to the right (a view that was also used on the Rosa Americana and Hibernia coppers issued in his reign), while George II faces to the left and George III swings back to the right. The final digit of the date is visible and it is the important one, since this issue was only struck from 1717-1724, so with that digit being a 3 the date could only be 1723.

This one is struck with the obverse of the host coin visible on the reverse of the New Jersey and obviously vice-versa. The distinct bust of George II is quite strong within the shield, while the exergue line and part of the date is visible above the horse's head on the obverse – the 3 in the date right about where the horse's ears would be. Again, the photos are oriented to show both the host and the overstrike.

While these two New Jersey varieties are dated 1786 and 1787 respectively, given the existence of 1788-dated coins serving as planchets for both, the overstruck examples

of each were probably not produced until 1788 or, perhaps as late as 1789, right before the Coppers Panic would have made their circulation difficult. Despite much earlier dates on the two undertypes illustrated here it is likely that they all date from the 1788-9 period as well.

Figure 2: 1787 Maris 56-n "Camel Head" variety struck over a 1723 George I British Halfpenny. Top photograph oriented to show the New Jersey overstrike, the bottom one oriented to show the host coin. The 3 in the date is visible near the horse's ear. (Bottom photographs courtesy of Beverly Massa)

It's always fun to add something new to a series – and since adding a previously unknown die variety seems pretty unlikely at this late date, unknown overstrikes are about the best a collector could hope to find! Hopefully other collectors will share similar unlisted host coins that they own – 230 years later, the state coinages still have mysteries to reveal!

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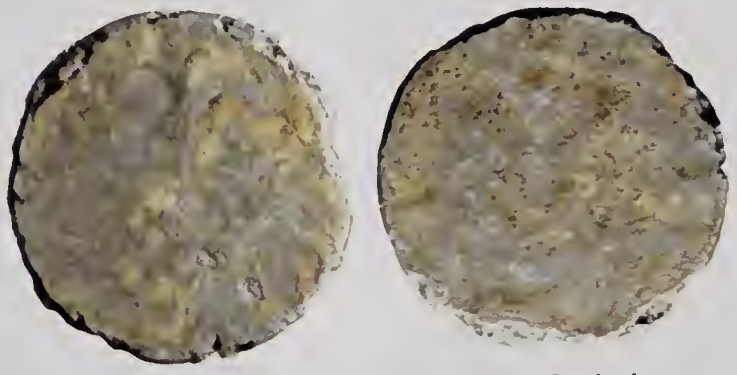
A SNAPSHOT OF UNUSUAL BASE METAL COIN & TOKEN RECOVERIES FROM BURLINGTON COUNTY NEW JERSEY

(Wayne H. Shelby)

The following metal detecting coin finds are important documentation for colonial and early American Numismatics. However, they represent a very small percentage of my dug collection as a whole. There is a lot to be said for the quality and condition on a large majority of the pieces….. Upon viewing the digital images one may be reminded of the Clint Eastwood movie titled "The Good-The Bad-The Ugly."

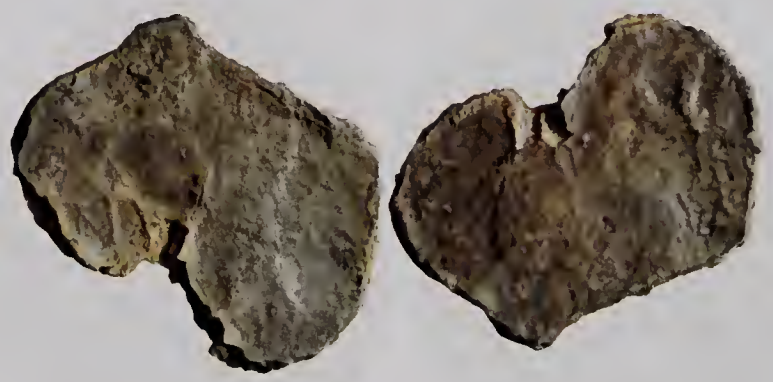


English Tin farthing: Not attributable to a Ruler however, date of minting range between 1684 and 1694. Practically the only visible features are the upper portion of the staff and the seated figures head. There are traces of a letter or two in the legend below the staff. *(Author's site in Burlington, NJ)*

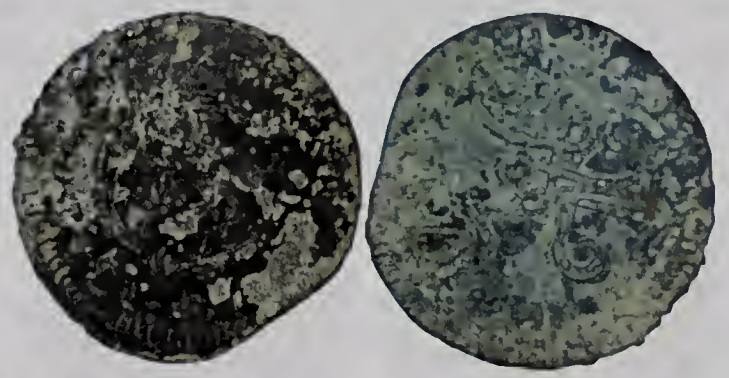
English Tin halfpenny, William & Mary: Date not visible; however, minted between 1689 and 1694. Most of the double portrait and seated figure are visible along with a number of letters in the legends. The rectangular copper plug appears near obverse center. *(Author's Site #34, Vincentown, NJ)*

1760 Irish Voce Populi farthing: Attributable to the more common large letter variety. Obverse: Outline of bust and most of legend readable. Reverse: Outline of seated figure visible along with the letter "A" in Hibernia. The date is obliterated. *(Recovered by Henry Winzinger.)*

1760 Irish Voce Populi halfpenny: Nelson 6 variety (R5.) Obverse & Reverse: All visible, readable and dated. *(Recovered by Henry Winzinger.)*



Counterfeit English George II halfpenny: Tin and/or Pewter? Obverse: Back of head and neck of George II visible. Reverse: Right side of seated figure visible along with the letter "A" in Britannia. Regal George II halfpennies were minted 1729-1754. *(Author's Site #77, Vincentown, NJ)*



1817 Caracas Venezuela ¼ real: KM-C#2, copper Royalist coinage. *(Author's site in Vincentown, NJ)*

1820 Columbia Santa Marta ¼ real: KM#B4, copper Royalist coinage. *(Author's site in Burlington, NJ)*

1811-1813 Pre-Republican Cartagena-Columbia, 2 Real: KM#D1, copper siege coinage. *(Author's Site #5, Moorestown, NJ)*

1690 Irish Gunmoney Crown: KM #103.1, 103.2 or 103.3, Brass Civil War Issue. Obverse: Majority of horse and rider along with some legend visible. Reverse: Outline of Coat of Arms and "16" in 1690 of date however all very weak and best when held in hand. *(Author's Site in Southampton Twp. NJ)*

Roman Constantine Bronze: Approximately 350 AD. *(Author's Site #42, Westampton Twp. NJ)*

1659 Irish Merchant Token (Will Stanly of Gallway): Williamson #482, copper/brass. 25.7 grains. *(Author's Site #34 Moorestown, NJ)*

German Alexander/Magellan Rechenpfennig Token: Brass, 10.6 grains, 1800 (?). (Author's Site #37 Hainesport, NJ)

Spanish Netherlands Liard: (1709-1713), copper, 39.1 grains. *(Author's Site #37 Eastampton Twp. NJ)*

French Colonies Crowned "C" Stampee: Billon, 21.5 grains, counter stamp on blank planchet. *(Author's Site #58 Mt. Laurel, NJ)*

1753 Netherlands Overyessel Duit: KM #90, copper, 44.3 grains. *(Author's Site #27 Burlington, NJ)*

1801 Sweden ½ Skilling, Gustaf IV Adolf: KM #549, copper, 71.1 grains. *(Author's Site Willingboro, NJ)*

CONCLUSION: Keeping it short and sweet, it appears we accepted and circulated practically any coin available to us in colonial and early America.

Value for unfamiliar coin may have been mutually agreed upon at time of transaction. It would be difficult at best for the general public to have vast knowledge of circulating world coins in the period.

Merchants most likely would have the upper hand in determining relative value for most of these pieces. However, there may have been instances where certain coins were rejected or deemed practically worthless.

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JOHN LAW COPPER COINS INTENDED FOR THE *COMPAGNIE DES INDES* AND FRENCH COLONIES 1722-1723

(Martin L. Smith)

In 1719, the streets now known as the French Quarter were laid out in New Orleans. Early settlers were mainly French sailors. Later, prostitutes and orphans were cleared from the streets of Paris and sent to populate the new French colony. (1) As was custom for European colonies at the time, enterprising individuals in Europe sought to make big money with various schemes involving the colonies and colonists. One such schemer was John Law, who was in charge of French coinage and currency during the early reign of the boy king Louis XV. The boy king was only 5 years old at the time of his coronation, making him about 9 years old at the time John Law entered the French coinage and currency scene. (1)

Aside from worthless paper money that was issued at the time, John Law issued a series of copper coins bearing the likeness of the boy king Louis XV on the obverse, and the French coat of arms on the reverse. The coins are dated 1719-1724. In 1720 John Law and other investors founded the *Compagnie des Indes*, which was a trading company that ran a fleet of merchant ships between Europe and the French colonies, including the Americas and New Orleans. (2)

Regarding the copper coins, some of the 1719-1720 issues reached North America probably amongst other various European coppers, by merchant ships or perhaps in the pockets of colonists. They were not really issued for North America, rather, they circulated in France and were exchanged indifferently in the colonies among other assorted copper coins. This first issue of "John Law coppers" was authorized by a Royal Edict of May, 1719. (2)

In colonial America, copper coins were valued by weight in copper, irrespective of which European monarch was depicted on the coin. The John Law coppers saw a dramatic reduction in value that led to their disuse. The Crown valued the coins at 20 *deniers*. However, owing to free-market forces, in fact, the first economic "bubble" on record, the coins fell in value from 16 *deniers* to 6 *deniers* in colonial America (3). There are accounts of French sailors gambling with the coins and throwing them into the Mississippi river. (1)

A prototype John Law copper is pictured in the *Red Book of United States and Colonial Coins*. (4; and Figure 1) It carries the prototypical date 1720, the year of the infamous economic calamity. There was probably little demand for the coins in North America following their devaluation.

A later mintage of John Law coppers was, however, struck specifically for shipment to the French colonies. A royal edict of May 1722, registered June 6, 1722, called for such coppers to be minted at branch mints Rouen, La Rochelle, Bordeaux, and Nantes, carrying

mintmarks B, H, K, and T, respectively. (3) The coins were minted although mintages and survival rates are unknown. Possibly none were struck at Nantes (T). Coins dated 1722 or 1723 deriving from these branch mints are obtainable but quite rare (Figure 2). Given their connection to the *Compagnie des Indes* and the French colonies in North America, I submit that they make a valid addition to a colonial collection.

Fig. 1. Prototype John Law copper dated 1720. Struck at the Reims mint and carrying the S mintmark.

Fig. 2. *Compagnie des Indes* issues dated 1722-1723. Shown is a 1722-H (La Rochelle) example.

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AN ADVENTURE WITH COLONIAL COINS AND CURRENCY

(Paul Turdo)

To me as a coin collector, coins go hand in hand with what once was. I purchased a 1641 lion dollar for my collection because the Dutch were here before many of the English. The piece I chose was heavy, sort of crude looking and had a split along the circumference and had more detail than another example without that flaw. I went for eye appeal and felt that crack had a story to tell.

I can imagine this coin being hammered again and again in the province of Gelderland, in the Netherlands, with the hand-held die moving ever so slightly on the second strike causing a doubling on some letters, and splitting the edge of the large planchet of silver. It was such an important part of the Dutch colony's economy in New Amsterdam, that printed currency was valued in leeuwendaalders.

I can recall another example of the relationship of coins and currency when I purchased a five dollar continental note at a convention in New York City. A representative from RM Smyth handed me a little stack of colonial notes to thumb through and I picked one that fit my budget. As delighted to see that it was dated 1776. When I returned home I wondered who the two signatories were that signed it. So eventually I bought a copy of Eric Newman's, "Early Paper Money of America". I learned that one signature was Cornelius Barnes, and the other was J. B. Smith. Barnes was an appointed official to sign the bills, and Jonathan Bayard Smith was a member of the Continental Congress and, lo and behold, a signer of the Articles of Confederation and later, a founder of the University of Pennsylvania. How great is that! I can see him signing a sheet of bills and one of them is now mine. That same hand shook hands with the Founding Fathers. (OOPS, there goes my imagination again.)

To compliment this bill, valued at five Spanish milled dollars, is my 1759 eight real Pillar Dollar with all its glamour and tales of pieces of eight and pirate treasure and a trusted silver coin with a worldwide reputation of stability.

I'm a volunteer for the Pascack Historical Society in Park Ridge, NJ and found colonial items in their files. I put together a display in our museum of pieces donated by William Anton Sr. Among them is a New Jersey note signed by John Hart, signer of the Declaration of Independence, along with two New Jersey coppers.

I'm very proud of these historic relics and may they go on forever through my family for many years to come.

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THE PALMETTO STATE

(Ray Williams)

Did you ever wonder why South Carolina is called the Palmetto State? It goes back to our Revolutionary War. And there's also a numismatic connection!

In early 1776 John Rutledge, a South Carolina representative to the Continental Congress, arrived in Charleston with information about the British intentions to arrive in South Carolina. Together with Col. William Moultrie, construction of a defensive fort on Sullivan Island was started. This location was at the entrance to Charleston Harbor in an excellent strategic location for defense. Fort Sullivan (renamed Fort Moultrie shortly after the battle) was being built from trunks of Palmetto trees and sand bulwarks.

On June 8, 1776, the British demanded that the patriots lay down their arms or there would be a military action. The patriots refused. On June 28, 1776, the British attacked. The only part of Fort Sullivan that was completed was a 500 foot wall of palmetto/sand construction, and it faced the enemy ships. It was tall enough for the American cannon (31 of them) to be protected from the British naval cannon. The construction and the characteristics of the palmetto trunks tended to simply absorb any cannonballs that struck them. With the British aware that Fort Sullivan was under construction, what they thought would be an easy victory turned into an embarrassing defeat for them.

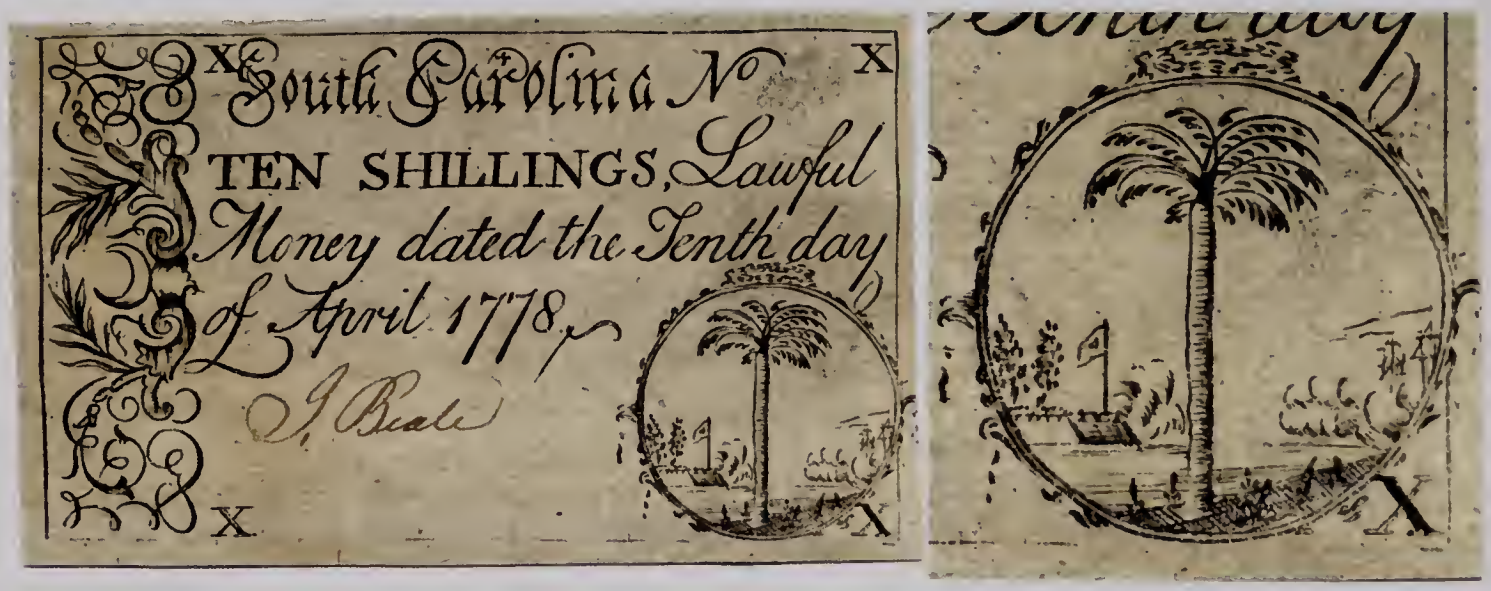
Section of a Fort Sullivan map showing the fort and the British Navy positions.
Library of Congress website: http://www.loc.gov/resource/g3914c.ar154400/

By 11:30 PM of the same day, the British retreated. During the battle, three British ships ran aground. Two were able to free themselves, but the Frigate *HMS Actaeon* (28 guns) was stuck beyond hope. With authorization, Captain Christopher Atkins ordered the ship to be abandoned and set ablaze to prevent it from falling into rebel hands. The Americans suffered 12 killed in action as compared to 91 killed for the British. And with respect to the wounded, the Americans had 24 and the British had 170.

This was a decisive victory in our Revolution, occurring just a few days before the signing of our Declaration of Independence. The battle delayed the British conquest of Charleston for about four years (until 1780) and instilled a sense of pride in South Carolinians. The palmetto tree that was so important in the construction and survivability of Fort Sullivan is commemorated on the South Carolina state flag today.

A book can probably be written (probably has been) on this battle, and the story is interesting, but what possible connection does this have to colonial numismatics?

During the 2015 American Numismatic Association (ANA) Summer Seminar, I attended a course on "The Numismatic Paper of Colonial America." This session was taught be John Kraljevich and Erik Goldstein - both familiar to us all. Erik has an awesome knowledge of military history that he combines with his numismatic expertise. During one session, Erik showed the students a 10 shilling bill of South Carolina dated April 10, 1778. It has a Palmetto Tree in a circular vignette. Erik had us look closer and behind the Palmetto tree is the battle of Sullivan Island. He informed us that this is the only Revolutionary battle that is depicted on colonial bills! I immediately thought, "I gotta get me one of those!"



South Carolina, 10 shillings, April 10, 1778, depicting a palmetto tree and Sullivan Island.

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FIRST QUARTER, 2016 AUCTION RECAP

(John Agre)

After an embarrassment of numismatic riches to describe in our previous years' First Quarter Colonial Coin Auction Recaps, 2016 was downright ordinary in comparison.

And accompanied by a profound sense of déjà vu, as some of the same coins offered and commented upon by your author in recent years reappeared here, sometimes in new clothes (er, slabs), sometimes not, sometimes for wildly different prices than they realized in previous appearances, sometimes not, sometimes actually selling, sometimes not (i.e. not meeting their specified reserves). But there were some neat new coins too, with the whole lot of them about to be discussed by your author right now:

The quarters' first auction was (as is the case every year) at Heritage at the FUN Show in FL in January, including a number of interesting, old world-y coins from an old Texas collection identified as the "House of Davis McKinney".

Like lot #3529, a crusty, original 1652 Oak Tree Shilling, Noe-1 variety graded XF45 by PCGS. And while that had a lot going for it, it was also was a bit rough in places, and had a jagged edge which explained the very low selling price (for the issue and grade) of $4,935.

And then lot #3532, a just as original Oak Tree Shilling, Noe-5 variety from the same consignment, this graded XF40 by PCGS and also not exactly choice with a middling strike and half a tree bringing an also low for the issue and grade $3,995.

Also weak: Lot #3533, a quite decent 1652 Oak Tree 3p in a PCGS AU55 slab which brought an alarmingly low $5,405. Did you know this exact same coin brought $10,575 in March of 2014? It did.

In the category of not weak, lot #3560, the finest graded 1787 Auctori Plebis and only mint state example at PCGS as MS61 brought $5,170.

And then we were on to Platinum Night and lot #5206, a 1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Noe-1, graded MS65 BY NGC which was offered at an opening bid of 36K and had no takers. This after bringing $49,350 in the Partrick sale twelve months earlier.

On the other hand, Lot #5207, a Maryland Lord Baltimore 4p graded PCGS XF40, also ex-Partrick, realized $25,850. For those scoring at home, that was a 22% increase during that same period.

While lot #5209, another Patrick refugee, this a 1739 Higley Copper Ex-Roper in a PCGS VF25 slab, was even Steven at $76,375 (i.e. exactly the same price it realized as an NGC VF25 last year).

And what about lot #5211? That was the 1787 New York Indian / Arms graded AU50 by PCGS and verified by CAC, which brought $73,437.50, about a 17% decline from its last appearance in the March 2014 Newman sale as NGC 50 CAC.

From Tampa we then traveled all the way to the world wide web, Ebay to be specific, on January 11th, where a 1787 New Jersey Copper listed by a well-known national dealer, graded AG3 by ANACs and including no other information whatsoever, was ID'd by sharp eyed specialists as a Maris 83-ii and bid up to $15,100 (including a sniping jump of about 2x in the last one minute). Illustrating once again that if you have a rare NJ you probably ought to just stick it on EBay and describe it as a "Coin with a horse on it".

Followed by a smallish session at Goldberg's at the end of January which thankfully (for the purposes of this article) included lot #358, a 1787 Fugio Restrike in Silver mis-described as copper which was purchased by a dealer whose book bid the auction house failed to execute. And while that may sound impossible, I know it's true since I ended up buying it from that guy.

Followed by the Heritage session in Long Beach February 4th through 7th which included more colonials which had been seen in recent years:

Like lot#3003, a 1652 Oak Tree Shilling, Noe-3, graded MS64 by NGC which realized $31,725. That's quite a bit less than the $44,650 it brought in the Partrick sale a year ago, but more than it sold for as a raw coin in the 2005 Ford sale, where it was called Choice Extremely Fine and realized $29,900.

Also of note (to me, anyway) was lot #3010, a 1783 Chalmers 3p graded AU50 by PCGS which realized $21,737.50. That's off from the $25,850 this same coin brought in the Newman sale in 2014 as an NGC AU50, and continues a downward trend for this diminutive issue which has been happening for years now.

With our next highlighted lots at Stack's-Bowers on February 10th, including two Continental Dollars:

Lot #73, a Newman 1-C CURENCY variety, looking pretty wholesome, graded AU58 by PCGS and realized $64,625, a price very much in line with where these have been in the last several years.

Followed by lot #74, a Newman 2-C, CURRENCY variety, also pretty nice, graded PCGS XF45 at another price - $42,300 – which could not be called "soft".

Then we were on to Heritage in Dallas in early March.

Where we were once greeted again by lot #4707, the 1722 Hibernia Rocks 1/2p graded AU58+ by PCGS. This particular example first appeared to the current crop of collectors in the Craige sale of March 2013 without the + at $21,150 and then a series of subsequent auctions where it seems to get a little bit cheaper each and every time.

Followed immediately by lot #4708, an artfully double struck 1788 Connecticut Copper in an NGC MS62 slab which headed in the other direction, realizing $30,550 vs the $25,850 it realized in the aforementioned Newman sale of 2014.

Followed by another one of those sneaky NJ Coppers, this a pleasing chocolate brown circ. example of Maris 45-d. And while it was presented in a non-descript NGC F15 slab, it was properly attributed and realized $3,995 (which I assume surprised the Heritage catalogers who had unceremoniously placed it in the "non-floor" session with the less expensive stuff). Honestly, I think it would have brought even more if it was unattributed, as people seem love to "discover" these things on their own, sweat for two weeks hoping no one mentions it on one of the various numismatic chatrooms and then leave a snipe bid the size of an airplane hangar.

Leaving just Stack's-Bowers' Baltimore auction to round the quarter, with our first highlighted lot #12126, a round, nice looking 1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Small Planchet type, Noe-29 variety, graded VF30 by PCGS brought a completely expected $4,000 (actually $3,995, to be specific). Spoiler alert: Your author bought it.

Less expected: Lot #12163, the recently dug and extremely crispy 1787 New Jersey Maris 71-y, brought $4,230. I really thought that would bring more than that even if it was pretty far gone.

And then in the evening session there were a few more high and low numbers, starting with the latter and lot#13001, a wavy 1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Large Planchet, Noe-10 variety graded XF40 by PCGS which brought just $4,230.

But followed a bit later by lot #13007, a Washington Funeral Medal in Silver graded AU55 with a filled hole which brought waaaaaay more than I expected at $15,275.

Wow. How do we make any sense of these often low, occasionally high and sometimes in-between results? Honestly, I do not know, but I'm going to try anyway:

Softness in the overall coin market has impacted the colonial sector. Money is tight, dealers are less inclined to speculate on what they perceive to be riskier coins and a "cheap" price alone is not going to motivate some of us to buy something.

A lot of colonial collectors have been inundated with buying opportunities in recent years, and it takes time to recover.

The potential sale of future great coins at auction has some people saving up and waiting.

Tired retreads that have been on the market for too long are almost always soft.

Some series are weaker than others. The Mass Silver market, for example, is still recovering from the incredible volume of material sold last year, with non-choice, wavy,

rough or misshapen examples hit particularly hard, while some other series seem to be cruising right along.

A coin crossed from NGC to PCGS may increase in price at auction, but not necessarily enough to offset the effects of 1, 2, 3, 4 and part of 5.

Still, a great, fresh coin of any kind can bring a record price. Which I fully expect we will see and then read about here if any such colonials come to market in Q2.

The End.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Heads up! The dates for our convention this year are 3-6 November 2016. Block it now in your calendars!

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RESEARCH ASSISTANCE SOUGHT

I'm currently undertaking a comprehensive study of the Castorland jeton. I'm approaching the study from both sides of the Atlantic, relying heavily on French sources, and my study entails operational details from the manufacture of flans to the mechanical workings of the screw press; the history of jetons as they evolved from arithmetical counters to monarchial presentation pieces; events leading up to the establishment of the New York Company; the biography of Benjamin Duvivier; etc. culminating in detailed descriptions of variants struck from at least one original die. As you can see it's a big work, but I've been at it quite a few years and am wonderfully engaged in the project. Here is a "finding list" of details I'm looking for, as well as photos if possible:

1. If the specimen is in a slab, all the label information.
2. Identify the metal, gold, silver, copper, bronze. If silver, indicate thin or thick planchet.
3. If edge-stamped, identify the symbol and the lettering and location of the stamping (such as 6 o'clock relative the obverse.)
4. Die alignment: coin turn/medal turn.
5. Describe state of any reverse die failure, perceptible bulge, advanced crack, etc.
6. Describe reverse caustic incursion, sometimes identified as rust, at the right handle of the vessel.
7. Describe any other identifying factors such a rim bumps, scratches, spots, unfilled letters of legends, etc. that would help identify the piece if it were re-encapsulated at some future time.
8. Indicate the provenance, if known. If you currently own the specimen feel free to identify it ex your name for the benefit of future owners.

Please contact Chester L. Sullivan at csull@ku.edu

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C4 is making available on CD of a complete set of *C4 Newsletters* from 1993 (vol.1, no.1) through 2011 (vol.19, no. 4). The format is a fully searchable PDF files, which makes life and research much easier. Thanks to Randy Clark, Ray Williams and Gary Trudgen for their vision and extremely hard work, which now lets us offer these wonderful research tools to you for $50 plus $4.00 p&h for members or $75 plus $4.00 p&h for non-members. To order, please contact either (a) Wayne Shelby at dughistory@juno.com or at P.O. Box 568 Rancocas, NJ 08073 or (b) Charlie Rohrer at RohrerC@cadmus.com or at P.O. Box 25 Mountville, PA 17554. Please send your check made out to C4 to Charlie Rohrer at the above address.

I need help in a project that will turn into a *C4 Newsletter* article on estimating the surviving population of State Coinages. I am developing a model but need to better understand how many NJ coppers collectors hold. Only aggregated data will be used. I am looking for information on total number of NJ coppers, number recovered (dug), number purchased, and number sold in last 12 months or longer periods if available. I am looking for data from any size collections or accumulations.
J. Howes; 19967 East Doyle; Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236; 313 319-1743

Obtaining Back Copies of C4 Newsletter and C4 Auction Catalogues

Wayne Shelby has agreed to store the back copies of the *C4 Newsletter*. People wishing to purchase back issues that are still available should send their money to our treasurer, Charlie Rohrer, whose contact data are at page 2. Upon receipt of the money, he will contact Wayne, who will mail out the material. Back copies of the *Newsletter* are $10 for the first and $8 for all after that placed at the same time. If you have questions of what material is available, you can contact Wayne at:

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C4 Offers Important Colonial Books

For more information on the following books, published by the Colonial Coin Collectors Club (C4), visit the C4 website at www.colonialcoins.org. These books may be ordered directly from: Charles Davis' website: www.numisbook.com.

(1) Carlotto, Tony, The Copper Coins of Vermont and Those Bearing the Vermont Name, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 1998. Price: $165.

(2) Jordan, Lou. *John Hull, The Mint, and The Economics of Massachusetts Coinage,* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2002. Price: $10.

(3) McDowell, Christopher R., *Abel Buell and the History of the Connecticut and Fugio Coinages*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2015. Price $85.

(4) Martin, Sydney. *French Coinage Specifically for Colonial America*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2016. Price $85.

(5) Martin, Sydney. *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood (1722-1724),* Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2007. Price: $85.

(6) Martin, Sydney. *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2012. Price $85.

(7) Siboni, Roger S., Howes, Jack L. and Ish, A. Buell, *New Jersey State Coppers. History. Description. Collecting.*, The American Numismatic Society and Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2013. Price: $195.

(8) Vlack, Robert. *An Illustrated Catalogue of the French Billon Coinage in the Americas*, Colonial Coin Collectors Club, 2004. Price: $50.

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The Daniel Frank Sedwick database of fake cobs is now on ForgeryNetwork :
http://www.forgerynetwork.com/default.aspx?keyword=cob ..
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C4 Membership Dues

Annual dues are currently $30.00 for Regular Membership ($40 if residing outside the United States) and $10.00 for Junior Membership (under 18 years of age; $15 is non US resident). They are payable on a calendar year basis... due January 1. The year through which you are paid appears after your name on the mailing address label on the *C4 Newsletter* envelope. Life Memberships can be purchased for 25 times the annual membership cost, or $750.00. You may mail checks (made out to "C4") to:

Charlie Rohrer, C4 Treasurer
PO Box 25
Mountville, PA 17554

Thank you for paying in a timely manner... It makes his job easier and will be much appreciated!

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NEW RESOURCE FOR THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Our C4 Newsletter now has an index available on our website at www.colonialcoins.org. There are actually two indexes: one by author and a second by topic/title. This is a beginning and the index will improve over time. We have intentions of updating the index within a week or two of every issue being shipped. We ask past authors and contributors to the C4N to please review their work in the index and forward any corrections/additions/suggestions to Ray Williams at njraywms@optonline.net or give a call.

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PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

In accordance with our by-laws, those who have recently joined C4 as provisional members are listed below. If any current C4 member in good standing has a reason any of the following should be denied membership in C4, please contact either your Regional VP or the President of the Club, Jim Rosen. The new provisional members, with their home states, are :

Mike Dlugosz - NJ	Jesse Jaycox - NY	Bryan Reger - MO
John Esterly - OH	Bruce Needham - MA	Michael Wantman - MA
James Handrock - NM	Min Park - RI	Tom Webster - MI
Tim Janecke - FL	David Pepe - MA	

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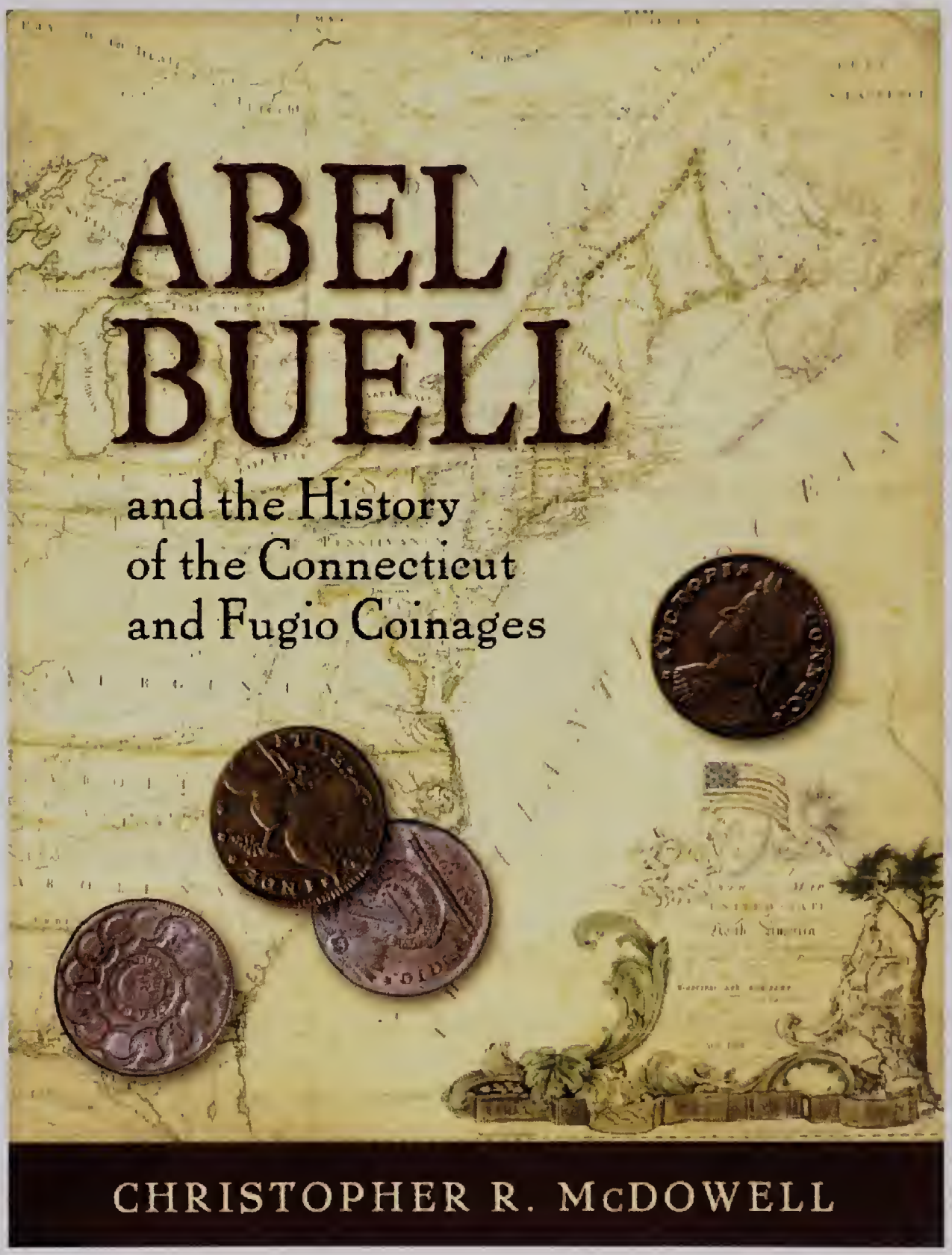

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NEW BOOK: FRENCH COINAGE SPECIFICALLY FOR COLONIAL AMERICA

The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, C4, released Sydney F. Martin's latest book, *French Coinage Specifically For Colonial America*. This is the third colonial coin book published by C4 written by Syd Martin. Other works include *The Rosa Americana Coinage of William Wood* and *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood.* The Rosa and Hibernia books are now considered standard references for those coinages and Syd's long awaited new book is expected to become the leading reference works on French Coinage minted for circulation in North America.

According to Lou Jordan, the curator of numismatic collections for the University of Notre Dame, "Sid Martin has written the definitive catalog of French coinage authorized specifically for use in North America." Jordan went on to state that "this is an essential book for anyone interested in the French coinage of colonial North America."

"What many early American coin collectors fail to recognize," Martin said upon the book's release, "is that from the 16th century until 1763, New France included much of what is now the United States, as well as most of Canada. As such, coins minted by France for circulation in its North American colonies should be considered 'coins of the realm' in these areas." Colonial numismatic expert, John Kraljevich, went on to explain that "the history of the French in what is today the United States is largely forgotten. However, the memory of these people and their coinage has been long cherished in Canada."

Jim Rosen, president of C4, predicts that "Martin's new book will awaken an interest in both the history of the French speaking people in North American and the coins they used such as the Gloriam Regni coins of 1670, the 6 and 12-denier copper coins minted in 1717, and the copper 9-denier coins from 1721 and 22, all of which were struck in France specifically for circulation in the Americas."

In the book's introduction, John Kraljevich writes that, "With Crosby-like flair, Syd has marshaled together the original documents that tell the stories of these coinages. Most have never been published at all, let alone in English or all in one place. This original research guarantees this work's importance to researchers in every forthcoming generation. The heart of this book, the die studies, offers several pathways for collectors to navigate these series, by basic type, by major variety, by die combination, or even by die state. It's a project that no one has ever even attempted before, an outlier in the world of colonial numismatics, a field that has seen multiple die studies of most of the popular series. Given Syd's well-organized approach and the thousands of coins he's studied, it may be generations before this work is supplanted. It's doubtful anyone will ever do it any better."

The 480 page book is hardbound, well-illustrated throughout with photographs of the different coin varieties examined, with dust jacket depicting French Coinage. The book is available for $85.00 plus $7.00 shipping from bookseller Charles Davis, (http://www.numisbook.com/), Box 1, Wenham, MA 01984, or telephone 978.468-2933

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C4 LIBRARY NEWS

(Leo Shane)

[Note : C4 Library News is updated in the summer and winter issues.]

Below are new items acquired by the club since the last C4 Library Update. They are now available for loan by all C4 and EAC members in good standing. A complete list of library holdings and instructions on how to borrow them is available at the C4 website www.colonialcoins.org. Thanks to all who have donated items.

"Thank You" to those who have checked their old copies of auction catalogs and donated them to the library. There's still room for more. The Library is interested in getting copies of past auction catalogs that we currently do not have. Take a look at the list shown on the club website. Any that are not already in the library are greatly appreciated. Remember, all catalogs that have at least one Colonial will have the colonial section separated and added to the library archive. Catalogs with major colonial content will be retained in their entirety.

Books, Manuscripts & Auction Catalogs:

Stacks, *The Winter Collection United States Colonial Federal Coinage Territorial and Pattern Issues – Selections from the Richard Picker David Sonderman and Ruder Family Collections*, 14-15 January 1992, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Coin Galleries, *Ancient and Modern Coins of the World and the United States Paper Money Medals and Decorations*, 10 November 1992, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Stacks, *United States Coins and Paper Money featuring selections from the collections of Dr Alfred R Globus C Richard Mihalyi Gregory J Gallagher*, 9-10 September 1998, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

Stacks, *Americana Colonial and Federal Coins Medals and Currency – featuring Selections from the Hain Family Collection Part II*, 15-17 January 2002, New York, NY – Donated by Christopher Faulkner.

American Auction Association, *The Matt Rothert Collection*, 16-17 November 1973, Hollywood, CA – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Superior Stamp and Coin Co, *The Dr Charles L Ruby Collection Part I*, 11-13 February 1974, Los Angeles, CA – Donated by Tom Gesner.

New Netherlands Coin Co, *66th Unrestricted Public Auction*, 21-22 July 1976, New York, NY – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Mid America Rare Coin Auctions, *The Capitol City Sale*, 15-16 February 1985, New Carrollton, MD – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 19*, Los Angeles, CA, January - February 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 20*, Los Angeles, CA, May – June 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 21*, Los Angeles, CA, September - October 1974 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, *Rare Coin Review No 24*, Los Angeles, CA, Autumn 1975 – Donated by Tom Gesner.

Bowers and Merena, *The Collections of Admiral Oscar H Dodson and Dr Richard L Collier*, 19-21 June 1984, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Bowers and Merena, *The Princeton Collection and The Charles W Ingle Collection*, 8-9 September 1986, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Stacks, *United States Coins featuring the Dr. James W. Vander Zanden Collection and Coins sold on behalf of Yale University*, 14-15 June 1995, New York, NY – Donated by Phil Kalanta.

Daniel Frank Sedwick, *Treasure and World & US Coin Auction 18*, 29 October 2015, Orlando, FL – Donated by Daniel Sedwick.

Mossman, Philip L, *From Crime To Punishment*, The American Numismatic Society, New York, NY, 2013 – Purchased by C4.

Martin, Sydney F, *The Hibernia Coinage of William Wood*, The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Sheridan Books, Ann Arbor, MI, 2007 – Owned by C4.

Stacks Bowers, *The November 2015 Baltimore Auction – US Currency*, 5 & 9 November 2015, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Stacks Bowers, *The November 2015 Baltimore Auction – US Coins*, 5-6 & 9-10 November, Baltimore, MD – Donated by Stacks Bowers.

Suggestions for additions to the library are always appreciated. Please consider donating books, auction catalogs, etc. to the library. Remember, those who are learning about colonials now are those who will be buying your coins later. Thank You, my E Mail is Leo_J_Shane@hotmail.com

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Due to increased publications and mailing costs, the charge for half and full-page ads will increase for Volume 24. The new rates are shown below. These rates are still below comparable newsletters.

Grayscale ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows (color ads are 50% more in each category):

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	4 issues	Copy Size
1 page	$300	$450	$600	$750	6" x 9"
1/2 page	$175	$250	$325	$400	6" x 4.5"

Covers cost somewhat more (please inquire – generally $200 additional). If you want to include a photo with your ad there will be an additional $10 charge. A black and white photo will be needed, but the size can be adjusted. Please send check with your ad. We accept camera-ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 10 lines of text.

NOTICE: The Colonial Coin Collectors Club does not review the ads provided for accuracy, nor does it assess any items offered for sale relative to authenticity, correct descriptions, or the like. C4 is not to be considered a party to any transactions occurring between members based on such ads, and will in no way be responsible to either the buyer or seller.

✧✧✧

"Colonial, cut, countermarked and Caribbean coins (and some other odds and ends as well). I am starting to sell a few pieces and have put up a website to that end. Please take a look at eastrockcoins.com. Peter Griffin."

✧✧✧

The Earliest American Coppers. Contemporary Counterfeit British & Irish Halfpence and Farthings. My personal collections built over the past decade are now for sale. We now have a webpage up and running with most coins imaged and priced. More will go up from time to time. I also have some Colonials and Spanish American Colonials-Cobs up. There are currently about 12 categories populated with coins for sale, they are; British George II, British George III, Irish George II, Irish George III, Counterstamps, Cast Ctfts, Mules, Errors, Regal's Colonials and Cobs. In the near future I will be adding some interesting Misc. I am still selling CD's of my collections, the details are on the webpages. Postage is always free for C4 and EAC members. Please use the savings towards next years dues ;-). Please visit the webpages and feel free to email with any questions.
Clement V. Schettino, PO Box 1093, Saugus, MA 01906
copperclem@comcast.net copperclem.com

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MASSACHUSETTS COPPERS

A Comprehensive Analysis and Attribution Guide of Massachusetts Colonial Coppers

By Michael Demling

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Not since Robert Vlack, in 1978, created die charts for the Massachusetts cents and half cents has there been a Comprehensive Analysis and Attribution guide for Massachusetts coppers. This guide is packed with pictures and methods to easily attribute the Mass coppers. Both Cents and Half Cents are shown in great detail with die combination charts.

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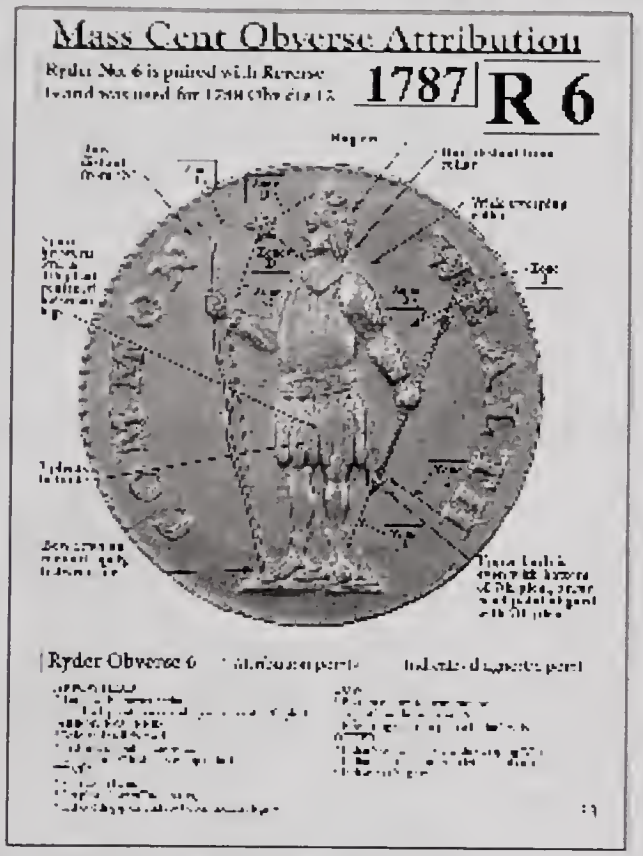

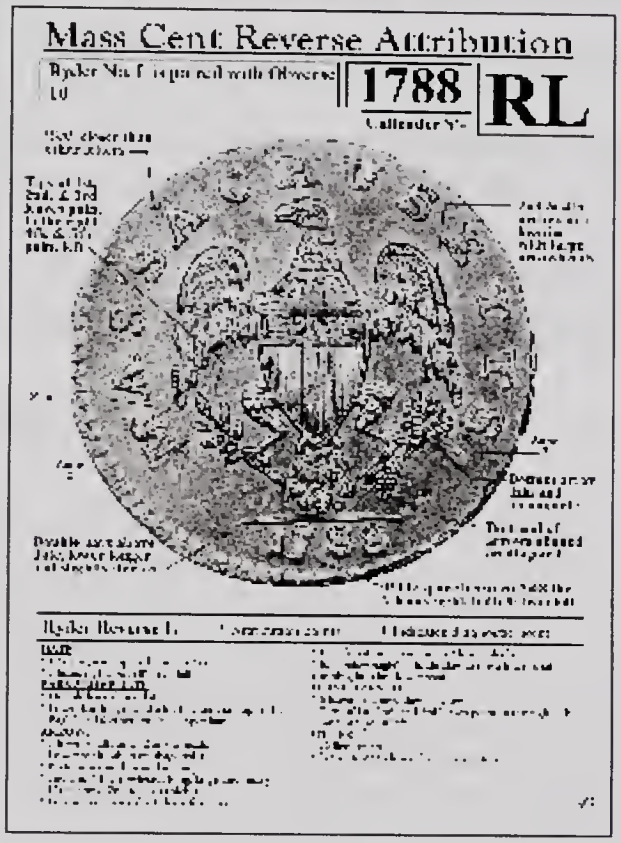

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